

Literary Texts First Semester Exam

Part One (8M):

Activity One (2M): Give a brief definition to each of the following.

- The Epistolary novel: *novel written as a series of documents, mainly letters*
- Satire: *style of writing that intends to ridicule and point out society's flaws.*
- Motif: *Recurrent idea, image, symbol in the narrative that helps develop a theme*
- Foreshadowing: *a technique that authors use at the beg. of a story to help readers develop expectations about what's coming.*

Activity Two (2,5 M): Complete the following statements.

1. A coming-of-age novel is also known as *Bildungsroman*.
2. The turning point in a work of fiction is called *Climax*.
3. The conflict in a story can be *internal or external*.
4. A *Flashback* is an interruption in the story to narrate events that happened in the past.
5. The *Illiad & Odyssey* are considered to be the oldest Greek epics.

Activity Three (2M): Decide whether the following statements are true or false. Correct the false.

- 1- A round character is a complicated character often displaying only one or two personality traits.
many / variations
- 2- A simile is a comparison between two similar things in which one is said to be the other.
distinct to be like the other
- 3- Figures of speech are often used only to enhance the aesthetic quality of a work of literature.
cite other functions of lit. devices / figures of speech.
- 4- In the exposition, ~~the action reaches its highest point~~, and the characters are introduced.
The story is set in the expo. characters + setting.

Explain the following expression (1,5 M):

Literature is the mirror of society *It reflects society like a mirror, reflects in order to make society realize its flaws & issues. It projects the virtues & good values in society, etc.*

Part Two (12 M):

Text study: Read the text on the following page, and respond to the questions that follow.

1- What an impression can you make on the title "*Things Fall Apart*"? (1M)

Foreshadowing: things are going to break up, disintegrate - to
You develop expectations about the end of the story, or what will happen in the story.

2- Identify the narrator of the story. How do you know (2M)?

- 3rd p.o.v. Is the narrator participant? Omniscient?
use of pronouns (he, she, it)
- Omniscient, access to actions & thoughts + feelings of the characters.

3- What characters are introduced in the reading passage? How do you learn about them? (2M)

- mention the characters, their roles.
- You learn about them through direct characterization
Give examples of ch. traits.

4- Determine a dynamic character and a flat character. How do you know? (2M)

Dynamic: Okwonko - Mention why.
Flat: Amalinze, Okoye.

5- Examine the setting of the novel. (1M)

The part of the setting that is presented is the exposition, where the narrator introduces us to the characters & setting of the story, in addition to what was happening before rising action begins.

6- Analyze the plot according to the information provided in the extracted passage. (2M)

Setting: - Nigeria, Nine Villages & Umuofia
- Winter & Harmattan season (Dec - Feb.)
- War with British invaders

7- Pick out a figure of speech. Identify its type. What effect does it have on the story's meaning? (2M)

Text

Okwonkwo was well-known throughout the nine villages. He was tall and huge. He had a dark complexion, a wide nose, and bushy eyebrows, which gave him a fierce look. At the age eighteen, he won a wrestling match against Amalinze the cat. Amalinze was the greatest wrestler who for seven years was unbeaten, from Umuofia to Mbaino. He was called the cat because his back would never touch the earth. It is this man whom Okwonkwo threw to the ground twenty years ago. His victory against Amalinze made him famous in his village Umuofia. Since then, Okwonkwo's fame had grown like a bush-fire in the harmattan¹. In addition, Okwonkwo was very hard worker. During the planting season, he worked daily from cock-crow until the chickens went to roost. He became a wealthy farmer and one of the greatest men of his time.

Unoka was Okwonkwo's father. He was a thin, handsome man with a gentle look. He was always in his agbada². In his day, he was lazy and improvident and was incapable of bringing food to his wife and children who were always hungry. He spent most of his time playing on his flute. Unoka was never happy when people talked about war. In fact, he was coward and could not bear the sight of blood. Rather, he preferred to talk about music with his friend Okoye, who was also a musician, playing on the ogene.

Okwonkwo was different from his father. And so although he was still young, he was respected among his people. And that was how he came to look after the doomed lad who was sacrificed to the village of Umuofia by their neighbors to avoid war and bloodshed. The ill-fated lad was called Ikemefuna. Okwonkwo was a man who liked action, so he was the first to take up arms in defense of his village. His courage against the British invaders won him a place among the heroes of his tribe.

(Adapted from *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe)

¹Harmattan: a very dry, dusty easterly or north-easterly wind on the West African coast, occurring from December to February.

² Agbada: a loose-fitting robe worn by men in Nigeria