

CERTIFICATE FOR LIAISON

Republic of Cameroon
University of Yaounde I
Ecole Normale Supérieure

E.N.S. Yaounde Entrance Examination: October 1998

LMA

Literature in English

Time 3hrs

Answer all questions. You are reminded of the necessity for good English and orderly presentation of your material.

1. Taking into account plot structure, setting, and characterization, discuss the characteristics that distinguish modern African drama from traditional Western drama. Substantiate your answer with references from appropriate plays you have studied.

With close reference to a Cameroonian colonial novel and an African (non-Cameroonian) post-independence novel, examine the preoccupations and concerns that characterize the colonial and post-colonial epochs in which both novels are set.

Read the following poem and answer the questions on the right that accompany it.

The yesterday of a people
Though dead, or buried,
Is connected with today.
For this day
Has been the
Outcome of that past.

So, my son,
Let us examine the past
With the ancient
Secrets of these enigmatic shells.
Examine it in the
Light of this day

and see whether
We can foresee
The hidden mysteries in
Tomorrow's pregnancy.

- (a) In no more than half a page state what you consider to be the meaning of this poem.
- (b) How many persons are present in the poem? What, in your opinion, is the persona's profession? How do you know?
- (c) Comment on at least three figures of speech employed in the poem.
- (e) Explain the meaning of the following lines in the poem:
(i) "The hidden mysteries in
Tomorrow's pregnancy." (Lines 15-16)

49

RJ