Hamma Lakhdar University OF El-Oued / Faculty of Art's and Languages / Department of English Language

Level: MA1/1st Semester Exam (2020/2021) / Teacher: Dr. MEHELLOU

Module: ESWL / Time: 08H30-09H30 / Date: 03-03-2021 / Duration: 60 mins

Name: Group:

1. In 'Named for Victoria' (1973, p. 99), Chinua Achebe writes: 'On one arm of the cross, we sang hymns

and read the Bible night and day. On the other, my father's brother and his family, blinded by

heathenism, offered food to idols.' In this quote, Achebe refers to one of the main themes of postcolonial

literature. In a short paragraph, identify and explain the referred to theme. (7 pts)

. The referred to theme in the quote is **hybridity**: **1 pt**.

. Explanation (3 pts): In the quote, Chinua Achebe refers to the clash of cultures that African

communities witnessed during the colonial period. Growing up within such communities resulted in

the emergence of a hybrid generation - a generation that belonged to two conflicting cultures, colonial

and traditional (African).

. Language: 2 pts.

. Paragraph structure: 1 pt.

2. Ralph Ellison opens his novel *Invisible Man* (1952) with the following words: 'I am an invisible man

[...], simply because people refuse to see me' (p. 3). In few lines, explain the quote and the theme used

in this work. (6 pts)

. The theme used in Ellison's *Invisible Man* is **invisibility**: **1 pt**.

. Explanation (2 pts): Invisibility refers to how African Americans come to face a new and subtle form of

racism in Northern cities, like Harlem, where they continue to be discriminated against, marginalised,

and treated as if they did not form a part of the American community.

. Language: 2 pts.

. Paragraph structure: 1 pt.

3. There are three main artistic movements associated with postcolonial studies. In a short paragraph,

choose a movement and define at least one of its main characteristics and literary themes. (7 pts)

*Only <u>ONE</u> movement should be chosen and discussed.

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. Language: 2 pts.

. Paragraph structure: 1 pt

Movement		Characteristics		Themes	
Harlem Renaissance	2 pts	Collective Memory, or Psychological Struggles.	1.5 pt	Double Consciousness, or Invisibility.	1.5 pt
Negritude	2 pts	Celebrating African cultures.	1.5 pt	Pride in African Cultures	1.5 pt
Pan-Africanism	2 pts	Addressing the oppression of Black people around the world.	1.5 pt	Trans-Atlantic/ African Unity, or the return to African Traditions.	1.5 pt

Good Luck!