

American University of Beirut  
School of Arts and Sciences  
Beirut – Lebanon CVSP 202

Final Exam-  
Summer 2008  
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I- Identify three of the following quotations by title and author, then place each identification in its proper context.(one paragraph for each identification.. only-10-15 lines) (30 points)

- a- “My inner self was a house divided against itself...”
- b- “There are three kinds of intelligences: one kind understands things for itself, the second appreciates what others can understand, the third understands neither for itself nor through others...”
- c- “It should be known that differences of conditions among people are the result of the different way in which they make their living.”
- d- ”master your feelings, listen to my words, and you shall learn just how My buried flesh was meant to guide you in another way.”

II- Write a well developed essay on **one** of the following questions: (70 points)

- a- According to Machiavelli the prince should see thing as they are and not as they are imagined.
  - 1- Explain this statement in the context of Machiavelli’s pragmatic philosophy of politics.
  - 2- how is this statement based on Machiavelli’s conception of man?
  - 3- How are the ideas presented in Machiavelli similar to or different from Ibn Khaldun’s ideas stated in Tahir ben al Husayn’s letter to his son Abdallah b. Tahir?
  - 4- Which of the two authors you tend to agree with and why?
- b- The Journey of Life  
“And like a pilgrim who is traveling on a road where he has never been before, who believes that every house which he sees from afar is a hostel, and finding that it is not directs his belief to another, and so from house to house until he comes to the hostel; even so our soul, so soon as it enters upon the new and never-yet made journey of life directs its eyes toward the goal of its supreme good , and so whatever it sees that appears to have some good in it, it thinks to be it. ..And because its knowledge is at first imperfect, through having no experience or instruction, little goods appear great to it. And so we see little children intensely longing for an apple and then going further, longing for a little bird, and then further on longing for fine clothes, and then a horse, and then a mistress. And this comes to pass because in none of these things does he find that for which he is ever searching”

(Dante,Convivio, IV)

Analyse and explain this quotation in the context of Dante’s thinking. How Would you relate Dante’s ideas to the themes that we discussed in class this Summer?