

American University of Beirut
Civilization Sequence Program
CVSP 204
Fall 2005-2006
Inanna Hamati-Ataya

Final Exam
Friday, January 20th, 2006
Duration: 2 hrs 10

Please write down your ID number only!

You are asked to answer 4 different sets of questions: each is meant to evaluate a different skill. To help you manage your time, I have specified an estimated duration for every part of the final; please take some time at the end to review your answers. Good luck!

1. Short-answer questions: evaluation of knowledge and understanding (10 points 10 minutes)

Choose **5** of the following questions (2 points each):

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e. non-Science? Explain briefly.
- f. *Death in Venice*, what Freudian interpretation can be given of ay in Venice despite his knowledge of the epidemic?
- f. *Waiting for Godot*, what event announces the end of the day for Didi and Gogo?

2. Text analysis: evaluation of your reading skills (20 points 30 minutes)

Choose **1** of the following passages :

- a. *it is instrumental, it is persuasive; it has status, it establishes canons of taste and value; it is virtually indistinguishable from certain ideas it dignifies as true, and from traditions,*

ideas presented in the passage by applying them to an example of your own choice.

- b. *tested by*
capable of being singled out, once and for all, in a positive sense; but I shall require that its logical form shall be such that it can be singled out, by means of empirical tests, in a negative

Identify the author; what is his concern in this passage? What does it tell us of his conception of scientific statements? Give examples to illustrate the difference between the two types of systems that he distinguishes in the second sentence.

3. Text interpretation: evaluation of your ability to engage thematically with a text (20 points 30 minutes). You are asked to use the text to support your answer.

Choose **1** of the following questions

- a. In *Waiting for Godot*, these actions productive? Why? Give illustrations by referring to specific scenes in the play.
- b. According to you, which character in *Season of Migration to the North* is the most representative of your own perception of Arab identity today? Why?

4. Essay: evaluation of your ability to use known texts to reflect upon a given theme, to build an argumentation, use contemporary examples in relation to the texts, and explore your own specialised knowledge (major) to contribute to the theme (50 points 60 minutes)

Choose **1** of the following essays

- a. One of the themes explored in CS 204 is the human belief that the discovery of physical and social truths is essential in improving our social condition. Reflecting upon your own knowledge, experience, and aspirations, how would you define the value of truth in the contemporary world, your society, or your own life?
- b. Many authors you studied this semester have, in one way or another, undermined the concepts nature of the physical and social environment, how do you perceive the limits imposed on your advancement as individuals or as a community?

Good luck to all, and congratulations to graduating students!

For those who missed a quiz or got a grade lower than 70 on one of the quizzes, please answer the following question:

Explain why, according to Freud, the more human beings secure their survival, the more they undermine their hopes of fulfilling their individual happiness.