

CIVILIZATION SEQUENCE 204

FINAL EXAMINATION

Time: Two Hours

June 21, 2002

Prof. Nassar

PART ONE: (30%)

In the following two quotations, (1) Analyze the ideas in the quotation (2) Connect one of those ideas to another idea you have come across this semester.

1. "But you are engaged to be married."
"A girl is free until the marriage agreement is signed. Nothing has passed between us but words and a dish of sweets!" answered Hamida, laughing sarcastically.
"And the recitation of the Qur'an?...Punishment for violating the Qur'an is harsh, you know."
"I don't give a damn!" snarled the girl.

(Mahfouz, *Midaq Alley*)

2. Ann Hammond spent her childhood at a convent school. Her aunt was the wife of a Member of Parliament. In my bed I transformed her into a harlot. My bedroom was a graveyard that looked on to a garden.... One day they found her dead. She had gassed herself.

(Salih, *Season of Migration to the North*)

PART TWO: ESSAY (70%)

Illusion versus reality is a major theme of many of the writers you read in C.S. 204, from Freud to Malraux to Salih. Choose a few of those writers and explore their treatment of this theme. At the same time, give your own opinion whenever possible, arguing for or against the ideas of your chosen authors. Be careful to avoid superficiality. You will be graded on your knowledge of the material and the strength of your argument.

GOOD LUCK!