EXAMINATION

Course code:	Course:
SFE10108	Culture Studies 1
Date:	**Duration:**
29.11.18	5 hours
Permitted aids:	**Lecturer:**
English-English dictionary	Melanie Duckworth

The examination:

The examination papers consist of 5 pages including this page.
Please check that the examination papers are complete before you start answering the questions.

Date of announcement of the examination results: 20.12.18

The examination results are available on the Studentweb.

Short Answer (20 %)

Answer **six** of these questions, using complete sentences. 1-3 sentences per question should be enough.

1. Explain the significance of the title of the poem 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock'.

2. What happened in the year 1066 and how did this event transform Britain?

3. What does Jonathan Swift mean when he writes: "I grant that this food will be somewhat dear, and therefore very proper for landlords, who, as they have already devoured most of the parents, seem to have the best title to the children."

4. Explain some important features of Romanticism and name two Romantic writers from your syllabus.

5. Is this poem a sonnet? Why/why not?

   The Soldier, Rupert Brooke

   If I should die, think only this of me:
   That there's some corner of a foreign field
   That is for ever England. There shall be
   In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
   A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
   Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,
   A body of England's, breathing English air,
   Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.

   And think, this heart, all evil shed away,
   A pulse in the eternal mind, no less
   Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;
   Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;
   And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,
   In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

6. Why is *Othello* called a 'tragedy'?

7. What makes *Mrs Dalloway* a Modernist novel?

8. What is the role of the "skinhead" in the poem "v"?

9. Explain which flags combine to make the Union Jack.

10. What were the "Troubles"?

Section 2: Literature Essay (40 %)

Answer **one** of these questions. There is no specified length for the essay, but make sure it is a complete essay that makes an argument and backs up its claims with examples from the texts.

1. "Seamus Heaney wrote 'Punishment' because he felt guilty." Do you agree or disagree? Argue your case.
2. Is *Arcadia* a play about loss or a play about hope? Refer to the provided extract as part of your answer.
3. "Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey* mocks the genre of the Gothic novel." Do you agree or disagree? Argue your case.

Section 3: Civilization Essay (40 %)

Answer the question below. There is no specified length for the essay, but make sure it is a complete essay that makes an argument and backs up its claims with historical and cultural facts.

1. Which three historical events or characters have shaped Britain the most? Choose three significant events or characters from British history, explain how they have influenced Britain, and make an argument about why they are so important.

Appendix

Punishment by Seamus Heaney

I can feel the tug
of the halter at the nape
of her neck, the wind
on her naked front.

It blows her nipples
to amber beads,
it shakes the frail rigging
of her ribs.

I can see her drowned
body in the bog,
the weighing stone,
the floating rods and boughs.

Under which at first
she was a barked sapling
that is dug up
oak-bone, brain-firkin:

her shaved head
like a stubble of black corn,
her blindfold a soiled bandage,
her noose a ring

to store
the memories of love.
Little adulteress,
before they punished you

you were flaxen-haired,
undernourished, and your
tar-black face was beautiful.
My poor scapegoat,

I almost love you
but would have cast, I know,
the stones of silence.
I am the artful voyeuur

of your brain's exposed
and darkened combs,
your muscles' webbing
and all your numbered bones:

I who have stood dumb
when your betraying sisters,
cauled in tar,
wept by the railings,

who would connive
in civilized outrage
yet understand the exact
and tribal, intimate revenge.

Tom Stoppard, *Arcadia*

Extract from Act One, Scene Three

Thomasina: Is it Cleopatra? I hate Cleopatra.

Septimus: You hate her? Why?

Thomasina: Everything is turned to love with her. New love, absent love, lost love – I never knew a heroine that makes such noodles of our sex. It only needs a Roman general to drop anchor outside the window and away goes the empire like a christening mug into a pawn shop. If Queen Elizabeth had been a Ptolemy history would have been quite different – we would all be admiring the pyramids of Rome and the great Sphinx of Verona.

Septimus: God save us.

Thomasina: But instead, the Egyptian noodle made carnal embrace with the enemy who burned the great library of Alexandria without so much as a fine for all that is overdue. Oh, Septimus! – how can you bear it? All the lost plays of the Athenians! Two hundred at least by Aeschylus, seven from Sophocles, nineteen from Euripides – thousands of poems – Aristotle's own library brought to Egypt by the noodle's ancestors! How can we sleep for grief?

Septimus: By taking stock. Seven plays from Aeschylus, seven from Sophocles, nineteen from Euripides, by lady! You should no more grieve for the rest of them than for a buckle lost from your first shoe, or for your lesson book which will be lost when you are old. We shed as we pick up, like travelers who must carry everything in their arms, and what we let fall will be picked up by those behind. The procession is very long and life is very short. We die on the march. But there is nothing outside the march so nothing can be lost to it. The missing plays of Sophocles will turn up piece by piece, or be written again in another language. Ancient cures for diseases will reveal themselves once more. Mathematical discoveries glimpsed and lost to view will have their time again. You do not suppose, my lady, that if all of Archimedes had been hiding in that library that we would be at the loss for a corkscrew?