

University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Faculty of Arts

Third Year Examination in Arts (Study Stream), Semester 1, 2017/2018

English Studies: Theory and Practice

ENG 3156: Contemporary Sri Lankan Writing in English - Thematic Approaches

Two Hours

Open Book Exam

Answer **TWO** questions. **Question 1** is compulsory.

1. Anuk Arudpragasam stated, "One has to be very careful dealing with...violence because it is so easy and so common. I think you have to deal with it with patience, with tenderness." Discuss this statement in relation to *A Story of a Brief Marriage*.

OR

"Anuk Arudpragasam's *A Story of a Brief Marriage* is an artful narrative of how people are altered by war." Discuss.

OR

"Ramya Jirasinghe's poetry is a carefully crafted expression of insiderness and outsidersness." Discuss this statement in relation to *There's an Island in the Bone*.

OR

In your opinion, how do the poems in *There's an Island in the Bone* construct the persona of a cosmopolitan poetic voice?

2. "Overlapping memories and geographies characterize Nayomi Munaweera's *What Lies Between Us* as a migrant novel." Do you agree? If so why?
3. What issues will you highlight if you were asked to write a critical introduction to an anthology of contemporary Sri Lankan writing in English? Draw on **TWO** of the texts that you have studied for your examples.
