

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

FACULTY OF ARTS

SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION IN ARTS (STUDY STREAM)

ENGLISH STUDIES: THEORY AND PRACTICE

SEMESTER 1, 2016/2017

ENG 2135 - CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

TWO HOURS

Answer any THREE questions.

**1. EITHER**

- (a) "Adventure and exploration are key ingredients in Enid Blyton's *Five on a Treasure Island* (1942)". With close reference to the text, analyse the significance of adventure and exploration within the narrative.

**OR**

- (b) Critically evaluate the construction of children within Enid Blyton's *Five on a Treasure Island* (1942), paying close attention to the socio-cultural specificities of such constructions.

**2. EITHER**

- (a) Would you agree with the view that R.K. Narayan's *Swami and Friends* (1935) can be firmly positioned within the school story genre? Justify your response through close references to the text.

**OR**

- (b) Critically examine the nexus between the child and colonialism in R.K. Narayan's *Swami and Friends* (1935).

**(3) EITHER**

(a) "T.B. Ilangaratne's *Amba Yahaluwo* (1957) explores issues of social class and education in post-Independence Sri Lanka." Discuss, with close reference to the text.

**OR**

(b) "While the trope of friendship predominates T.B. Ilangaratne's *Amba Yahaluwo* (1957), the intersections of childhood and class are equally significant." Undertake a close analysis of the text in light of the above statement.

**4. EITHER**

(a) Would you agree with the view that in J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* (1997), the protagonist's self-definition is inextricably tied to the school context? Discuss with close reference to the text.

**OR**

(b) What elements of the fantasy genre can be identified in J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* (1997)? Discuss with detailed reference to the text.

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