

University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Faculty of Arts

Special Degree Examination in Arts (English) Year 4, Semester 1, 2020

ENG 4175 – Modern Drama Studies II

TWO HOURS

Answer TWO (02) questions, choosing ONE from Part A and ONE from Part B

Part A

Either

1. "There are two kinds of silences: one when no word is spoken; the other when perhaps a torrent of language is being employed. ... The speech we hear is an indication of that which we don't hear." Examine this statement in relation to Pinter's *The Dumb Waiter*.

OR

2. Explore how Pinter's *The Dumb Waiter* provokes menace in mundane situations. In your discussion refer to the staging of menace in the play.

Part B

Either

3. "A new type of man was said to have emerged from the war experience: self-confident, joyful in sacrifice, and personally pure" (Mosse). How does Delon Weerasinghe's play *Thicker than Blood* problematize this "new type" of man?

OR

4. "The opening scene, a battleground, in the immediate aftermath of an intense battle, overlaid with auditory effects of gunfire and explosions, centralizes Suresh's relationship with an Old Man and immediately elicits war as a site for the performance of violence, aggression and dominance." Discuss this statement with reference to Delon Weerasinghe's play *Thicker than Blood*.
