

## ENG436: Writers' Vision of the Future

### End-semester Exam

Saturday, April 20, 2024

8 – 11am

Total Marks: 15

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Please ONLY answer questions totaling 15 marks. This means you may answer three questions from Section I, OR one question each from Sections I and II, OR one question from Section III. I will NOT grade any extra answers.

*Marks will be deducted for any parts of the answer that are not directly linked to the given question.*

*Please provide specific textual evidence for all claims made in all your answers.*

### Section I

5 Marks Each

In many ways, the core ideas that appear common to most utopian visions are summarized in the Preamble to the Constitution. However, these ideas are not defined in the same way across texts. Given below are five of these core ideas. Choose ONE of them, and then do the following:

- Analyse how the preamble defines the idea (focusing ONLY on the Preamble, not on the rest of the Constitution, though you may provide textual evidence from the rest of the text to support your claims).
- Choose a text from those discussed in class that focuses on the same idea as central to its utopian vision **but defines the idea in a very different way**.
- Analyse your chosen text to show how its definition of the idea contrasts with the definition of the idea in the Preamble.

- 1) We, the people
- 2) Justice
- 3) Liberty
- 4) Equality
- 5) Fraternity

### Section II

10 Marks Each

- 1) Through the course of this semester, we have defined Utopia in at least three different ways – as a goal, as a process, and as a method / way of reading that focuses on hope. Explain the difference between these three ways of understanding utopia through a comparative analysis of any three texts studied during the course of this semester.
- 2) Though this course is titled 'Writers' Vision of the Future', we have seen that a utopian vision is not always set in the future. It may, in fact, be seen to exist in the present, or even in the past. Using any three texts from those discussed in this course, analyse how the meaning and purpose of utopia changes depending on whether it is associated with the past, the present or the future.
- 3) A utopian vision may be presented as what OUGHT to be (prescriptive), what COULD be (a real demonstrable possibility), or what MIGHT be (a remote hope). Explain the difference between these three ways of thinking about utopia through a comparative analysis of any three texts chosen from those discussed in this course.

## SECTION III

15 Marks Each

Choose any ONE set of images given below and do the following:

- Analyse the idea of utopia presented in each of the two images
- Find a parallel text from those discussed in class for each of these two ideas of utopia
- Explain the difference between the two ideas of utopia emerging from the images by connecting them with their respective parallel texts

*Please make sure that your analysis of the images is based ONLY on the given images and not on any other information about the images or what they represent.*

### 1) Visual Utopia



### 2) Utopia Word Art



### 3) 'Utopia' book covers:

