

Correction of the Exam Paper : Littérature Comparée / 2022 – 2023

1. Explanation of the Assertion:

Comparative literature transcends various boundaries, including national borders, time periods, languages, genres, and man-made divisions. For instance:

- **National Borders:** Comparing Gabriel García Márquez's "One Hundred Years of Solitude" with Chinua Achebe's "Things Fall Apart" examines distinct national narratives (Colombian and Nigerian).

- **Time Periods:** Contrasting Shakespearean sonnets with contemporary Japanese haikus involves comparing literary expressions from different historical eras.

- **Languages:** Analyzing themes in Haruki Murakami's "Norwegian Wood" in both its original Japanese and translated versions showcases linguistic diversity.

- **Genres:** Contrasting a novel like Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" with a postmodern graphic novel like Art Spiegelman's "Maus" involves comparing diverse literary forms.

2. Importance of Translation in Comparative Literature:

Translation is crucial in Comparative Literature as it facilitates the exploration of diverse cultural and linguistic landscapes. For instance:

- **Example:** Translating Gabriel García Márquez's "Cien años de soledad" from Spanish to English allows readers to engage with the novel's rich narrative, enabling a comparative analysis with works in other languages.

3. Multicultural Literature and Its Three Kinds:

Multicultural literature includes three primary kinds:

- **World Literature:** Encompasses literary works that have gained international recognition and transcend cultural and national boundaries. Examples include Gabriel García Márquez's "One Hundred Years of Solitude" and Haruki Murakami's "Norwegian Wood."

- **Cross-Cultural Literature:** Explores interactions and exchanges between different cultures, often focusing on the blending or clash of cultural

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elements. An example is Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's "Americanah," which delves into the cultural experiences of a Nigerian woman in the United States.

- **Minority Literature:** Centers on the experiences, perspectives, and cultural identities of minority groups within a larger societal context. Toni Morrison's "Beloved" is an illustration, offering insights into the African American experience in the post-Civil War United States.