

ENGL 481 – Black British Literature
Examination 1

Texts and Focus: Black British cultural theories, Unsettled identities/Diasporic Identities, Black Britishness, migration; textual analysis of Sam Selvon's The Lonely Londoners, and Buchi Emecheta's In the Ditch.

Due: Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2005.

Grade: 20%

Length: At least 3 full pages excluding the works cited list

Format: MLA format, Arial 10 typeface, double space. Visit the University Writing Center if you need additional help on formatting your paper.

Grade Allocation:

70 points	Clear, well-developed and sustained critical analysis of the text
15 points	Format of the paper (MLA format – general outline, pagination, citations and typeface)
15 points	Spelling, grammar, sentence structure, tense

Possible Grade Deductions:

- 5 points	For each instance of unclear, un-developed textual analysis
-2 points	For each instance of general outline, pagination, citations and typeface errors.
-2 points	For each instance of spelling, grammar, sentence structure, tense errors.

Some Other Fine Points to Keep in Mind:

1. An excellent paper is a well-developed paper with a clear and focused introduction and thesis statement, strong critical arguments that are developed with strong textual analysis and reflection on the critical literature on text/author, and a well developed conclusion. I expect you to demonstrate knowledge of critical scholarly works and readings that are relevant to the topic of your essay.
2. Do not undertake textual/critical analysis using the past tense.

3. Speculation on what could have happened/should happen to characters is not analysis. Avoid that completely.
4. Please avoid Internet resources and reading guides. There are numerous books and publications in the Evans Library and other area libraries on each of the texts. Use the articles and handouts I have provided for you in class and those archived on the course web site. You may also use the MLA Bibliography database available in the Evans Library. If you are in doubt, please contact the library staff at the Evans Library. Let me know by Email (PKMuana@gmail.com or Muana@tamu.edu) if you would like me to get any particular book or article. Please provide a title and I will be happy to make copies of the required text from my personal library.

AS YOU WRITE THIS PAPER, PAY VERY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE FOREGOING GUIDELINES.

QUESTIONS – Answer only ONE of the following questions. Write the question out very clearly before you begin writing your response.

1. Focusing on the articles by Paul Gilroy and Stuart Hall in one of your course handouts, discuss their key arguments about notions of Black Britishness and what some of the main issues are in analyzing configurations of multicultural Britain.
2. Discuss Sam Selvon's portrayal of the lives and experiences of the immigrants in The Lonely Londoners.
3. Discuss the levels at which Buchi Emecheta's narrative in In the Ditch function in the depiction of the lives of Black female immigrants in Britain.

Questions, concerns, thoughts, doubts, please send me an Email at PKMuana@gmail.com and Muana@tamu.edu or give me a call at 832-215-4258