

FR1180

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
FIRST-YEAR EXAMINATIONS: SUMMER 2014

STRATEGIES FOR READING FRENCH TEXTS

Time allowed: 2 hours

Candidates should answer TWO of the following six questions.

Candidates are REQUIRED to illustrate their answers with relevant analysis of ONE OR MORE of the literary, musical, filmic or theoretical set texts studied in the module.

Candidates are also REQUIRED to refer to relevant material from the four theory topics covered during the year (authorship and intentionality; history and contextualization; the unconscious; gender and sexuality).

Candidates should not make the same text the principal subject of more than one answer.

Read carefully the instructions on the answer book and make sure that the particulars required are entered on each answer book.

1. How important is it to distinguish between writer and narrator when interpreting a text?

2. How important is it for a reader / viewer / listener to take note of the context in which a text was produced? Justify your answer.

3. 'When it comes to exploring the meaning of a text, the reader's desires will always trump the writer's intentions.' Discuss.

4. To what extent can the study of gender be divorced from the study of culture when interpreting a text?

5. What are the limitations and advantages of using psychoanalytic criticism in the analysis of texts?

6. 'Unconscious desire can belong to the protagonist, the narrator, or the author'. Discuss.

7. 'How far, and in what ways, does the use of critical theory enhance our analysis of a text?' In your answer you must make reference to AT LEAST TWO of the four theory topics covered on this module.

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