MES.14 LITERARY ARABIC

Candidates should answer three questions: Section A, Section B and one from Section C. All questions carry equal marks.

Answer three questions; at least one from each Section.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS
20 page Answer Book x 1
A Rough Work Pad

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed that you may do so by the Invigilator
SECTION A

Candidates should translate the following seen passage and provide a commentary as instructed:

Translate into English. Comment in terms of a) the immediate context; b) the context of the work as a whole; c) the wider intellectual context.

N. QABBANI, Hawamish 'ala Daftar al-Naksa (Beirut, 1983), pp. 5-7.
SECTION B

Candidates should translate the following unseen passage into English:

الطماينة

من سراجي الضئيل
فامن بصيغ
فامن بصيغ

من سراجي الضئيل
كلما الليل طال
والظلام انتشر
وأما الفجر مات
فاحفي يا بوم
فانفتك يا قمر

من سراجي الضئيل
باب قلبي حزين
في الما والبحر
واسبحي يا خوس
والشقا والضجر
باب جلي الحزين
من صنوف الكرد


طماينة peace of mind
ضئيل weak, faint
صنوف all types

انتحب to wait
انتحر to commit suicide

(TURN OVER)
SECTION C

Candidates should attempt one of the following essay questions:

5. ‘When there is no poetry in a period of history, there is no true human dimension’ (Adonis, *An Introduction to Arab Poetics*, p. 97). Discuss, with particular reference to Ibn Qutayba’s description of poetry in ‘Uyun al-Akhbar.

6. How has inter-cultural encounter inspired modern Arab writers to adopt, adapt and even abandon literary forms?

7. The neoclassical *qasida* ‘represents a literary-historical response to colonialism’. Discuss, with reference to texts you have read in class.

END OF PAPER