

Hama Lakhdar University
Faculty of Arts and Foreign Languages
Department of English

Teacher: Mega Afaf

Subject: Contemporary American Literature

Level: Master 01

CORRECTION OF THE SECOND EXAM

Topic One: The portrayal of the American woman in Toni Morrison's novel (20pts).

The essay should treat the following ideas:

Introduction:

- The novel is set in the 17th century, a period of uttermost slavery.
- There is a portrayal of the slave American woman particularly Florens and her mother Minha Mae.

Development

- Paragraph 01: discuss the characterization of Florens
- Paragraph 02: discuss the characterization of her mother Minha Mae.
- Paragraph 03: the message of the writer: Through both of them, Morrison exposes the inhuman situation of the black slave woman; there are images of the insecure, exploited, illiterate and abused black woman.
- Both of them agree on the importance of learning to save the dignity of the woman and assure her an independent life. Knowledge liberates the woman and gives her power.

Conclusion: A synthesis about what is dealt with in the essay.

Topic Two: Discussing some postmodern features in Morrison's novel A Mercy (20pts)

Introduction:

- Morrison as postmodern writer.
- The general theme of the novel.
- What are the postmodern features in Morrison's novel?

Development: discuss at least three features

- The ironic title: explain how.
- Multinarratives: two points of views (explain them).
- The structure of the novel: 10 parts, and some of them are flashbacks (give one example).
- Non-linear time: between past and present.
- Metafiction: many stories within the main story of Florens(Rebekka, Lina, Sorrow, Jacob,..)

Conclusion: A synthesis about the main points of the essay.