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Courses » Postcolonial Literature Announcements Course Ask a Question Progress FAQ



## Unit 5 - Week 3

Register for Certification exam

### Course outline

How to access the portal

Assignment 0

Week 1

Week 2

Week 3

- Lecture 11 - Raja Rao's Kanthapura (I)
- Lecture 12 - Raja Rao's Kanthapura (II)
- Lecture 13 - Critics of Nationalism: Rabindranath Tagore and Frantz Fanon
- Lecture 14 - Homi Bhabha and the concept of Cultural Hybridity
- Lecture 15 - Caribbean Poetry: Derek Walcott

### Assignment 3

The due date for submitting this assignment has passed.

As per our records you have not submitted this assignment. **Due on 2019-02-27, 23:59 IS**

1) "For him, the loss of Indian civilizational values can be traced back precisely to the European incursion in colonial India and to the importation of "Western civilization" in the subcontinent during the course of the colonialism". In the quoted sentence, who does the word him refer to? **1 point**

- a) Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay
- b) Rabindranath Tagore
- c) Frantz Fanon
- d) M. K. Gandhi

**No, the answer is incorrect.**  
**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**  
*d) M. K. Gandhi*

2) What was M. K. Gandhi referring to when he said the following: "The latter is godless, the former is based on a belief in God"? **1 point**

- a) Comparison between the writings of American transcendentalists like Thoreau and Emerson with Russian realist like Tolstoy
- b) Comparison between Indian struggle for independence with abolition of slavery in South Africa
- c) Comparison between Indian civilization and Western civilization
- d) Comparison between Indian Ayurveda and Western medicine

**No, the answer is incorrect.**  
**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**  
*c) Comparison between Indian civilization and Western civilization*

3) Raja Rao's *Kanthapura* and Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* are similar because: **1 point**

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## Text Transcripts

Solution to  
Assignments-  
Postcolonial  
Literature 2019**Score: 0****Accepted Answers:***a) Both of them caution against a simplistic glorification of the precolonial traditional society*4) What according to Rabindranath Tagore is the definition of a nation-state? **1 point**

- a) Tagore believed a nation-state is inherently connected with the capitalist mode of economy and creating surplus profit
- b) Tagore believed that a nation disregards the human tendency for altruism and self-sacrifice, and instead forces aggressive competition and greed of material prosperity, mutual jealousy and fear of other's growth into powerfulness
- c) Tagore believed that a man's position within the national machinery only reverses the natural relation between man and machine and curtails his freedom rather than enhancing it
- d) All of the above

**No, the answer is incorrect.****Score: 0****Accepted Answers:***d) All of the above*5) What was Frantz Fanon's basic argument in the section "The Pitfalls of National Consciousness", published in *The Wretched of the Earth* (1961)? **1 point**

- a) Fanon, like Achebe, wanted to present the African perspective to the outside world as well as engage with fellow Africans to expose the fault lines that were already present within the precolonial African society
- b) Fanon believed that the "scramble for Africa" was not a competition between colonizers to divide Africa's resources, but it was a competition between African states to gain more resources
- c) Fanon argued that the middle class which leads a country from colonial subjugation to independence fails to reorganise the means of production of that country, thereby perpetuating the economic exploitation by the colonial metropolis
- d) Fanon, like Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay, wanted to emulate the colonisers' superior civilization as a necessary step towards recovering the lost glory of the past

**No, the answer is incorrect.****Score: 0****Accepted Answers:***c) Fanon argued that the middle class which leads a country from colonial subjugation to independence fails to reorganise the means of production of that country, thereby perpetuating the economic exploitation by the colonial metropolis*6) What does Homi Bhabha mean by the concept of "hybridity"? **1 point**

- a) This concept seeks to study the experiences of blacks across Africa, the Caribbean and the USA against a set of humanist values that were supposedly held by blacks the world over
- b) Hybridity refers to the interconnectedness of different cultures
- c) Hybridity represents the hitherto silent "other" which has now started speaking back and disrupting the realm of politics in radical ways
- d) Hybridity is a concept used to categorize the differences within cultural groups

**No, the answer is incorrect.****Score: 0****Accepted Answers:***b) Hybridity refers to the interconnectedness of different cultures*7) What does Homi Bhabha mean by the concept of "mimicry"? **1 point**

- a) Through this concept Bhabha seeks to study the experiences of blacks across Africa, the



Caribbean and the USA around a set of humanist values that were supposedly held by blacks the world over

- b) Mimicry represents the hitherto silent "other" which has now started speaking back, disrupting the realm of politics in radical ways: thus women, 'natives', minorities, deviants, subalterns, now claim to speak as others
- c) Mimicry, refers to the partial imitation of the colonisers' language, dress, politics, and cultural attitude by the colonised subjects
- d) Mimicry refers to the ways in which diasporic communities keep emulating the social and cultural practices of their ancestral homeland

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*c) Mimicry, refers to the partial imitation of the colonisers' language, dress, politics, and cultural attitude by the colonised subjects*

8) What is James Clifford's major argument against Bronislaw Malinowski's study of natives of Papua New Guinea in their "original" setting? **1 point**

- a) James Clifford criticised Malinowski's study because it presented the Papuan islanders as a group of people absolutely isolated from the outside world. Clifford argued that Malinowski creates this illusion of isolation by leaving out details about how he himself travelled to that distant location, or communicated with the natives
- b) James Clifford called Malinowski's study biased because the latter had failed to take into account the altering identity, language, and culture of the indentured slaves who had returned to their native homelands
- c) James Clifford called Malinowski's study essentialist because the latter had failed to take into account the ambiguous way in which colonizer and colonized regard one another
- d) James Clifford called Malinowski's study biased because the latter had failed to take into account the effects of centuries of imperialism which had impacted the culture and language of the natives of Papua New Guinea

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*a) James Clifford criticised Malinowski's study because it presented the Papuan islanders as a group of people absolutely isolated from the outside world. Clifford argued that Malinowski creates this illusion of isolation by leaving out details about how he himself travelled to that distant location, or communicated with the natives*

9) What is the major difference between Diogenes and the Stoics regarding the understanding of the term "cosmopolitanism"? **1 point**

- a) Diogenes understood cosmopolitanism as the opposition of Greek city-states to the metropolis, while Stoics understood the term as the Greek city-states constituting the metropolis
- b) Diogenes understood cosmopolitanism as the sense of belonging to only a particular Greek city-state rather than to a nation, while Stoics understood the term as the sense of belonging to a Greek nation rather than to separate city-states
- c) Diogenes' claim of being a cosmopolitan or a citizen of the world meant the abdication of all rights and obligations towards one's state or country, but Stoics understood cosmopolitanism not as a renouncement of commitments but rather as an enhanced sense of commitment not just towards one's state or place of origin but also towards the rest of the world
- d) Diogenes the Cynic was called so because he did not believe in the concept of democracy, but Stoics believed that Greece would be able to maintain sovereignty over their states even after granting voting rights to its people

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*c) Diogenes' claim of being a cosmopolitan or a citizen of the world meant the abdication of all rights and obligations towards one's state or country, but Stoics understood cosmopolitanism not as a renouncement of commitments but rather as an enhanced sense of commitment not just towards one's state or place of origin but also towards the rest of the world*

10) Walcott's poem "A Far Cry from Africa" was written to \_\_\_\_\_

**1 point**

- a) lament against the continued physical, cultural and linguistic oppression of the natives of the Caribbean in the hands of British, Spanish and French colonizers
- b) make an appeal from the Caribbean natives to international institutions like the United Nations and the International Criminal Court to take action against the atrocities meted out by British, Spanish and French colonizers
- c) lament the fate of the Caribbean natives who had to forcefully migrate to other parts of the world under the fear of persecution
- d) show solidarity towards the Kenyan freedom fighters against the British atrocities during the Mau Mau uprising of the 1950s



**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*d) show solidarity towards the Kenyan freedom fighters against the British atrocities during the Mau Mau uprising of the 1950s*

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