



Høgskolen i Telemark

MIDT-EKSAMEN

**American Topics
(2004)**

14.10. 2008, kl. 0930–12.15 (i rom: 5-118)

Tid: 2 timer og 45 minutter

Målform: Engelsk

Sidetal (med denne sida): 3

Hjelpemiddel: Engelsk-Engelsk ordbok

Merknader:

Vedlegg: 2

Eksamensresultata blir offentliggjort på nettet, via Arena høgskole. I tillegg finn du eksamensresultatslister på utsiden av eksamenskontoret, men da trenger du kandidatnummeret ditt, så du bør notere dette på en lapp og legge den i lommeboka.



Avdeling for allmennvitenskaplige fag



Answer only **ONE** of the following three questions:

1. Describe and discuss the role and the function of the Indian reservation as it is presented in your curriculum. (You may for instance refer to Gertrude Bonnin's memoirs, to Leslie Silko's stories, and to the film *Smoke Signals*).
2. "The immigrant mothers win out at the end in Amy Tan's *The Joy Luck Club*." Discuss this statement and discuss the role of the mother figures in Tan's immigrant novel. (For your help: see attached sheet of names).
3. Discuss different attitudes related to American immigration in Ole E. Rølvaag's chapter "The Power of Evil in High Places" in his novel *Giants of the Earth*. You may compare his story to other American immigrant stories you have read. (For your help: see attached copy of the end of Rølvaag's chapter).

II The Power of Evil in High Places

"Why, Beret," he cried gayly, as soon as he got inside, "what have you been doing to the windows—covering them up?" He was looking at her with narrow, sparkling eyes. "Beret, Beret, you're a dear girl!" he whispered. Then he came over and fondled her—he wanted to help undress her and put her to bed. . . .

"No, no—not *that*!" she cried, vehemently, an intense anger surging up within her. Had he no sense whatever of decency and propriety, no feeling of shame and sin? . . . That's only one more proof, she thought, that the devil has us in his clutches!

After that time, Beret was conscious of the face whenever she was awake, but particularly along toward evening, as the twilight came on; then it drew closer to her and seemed alive. Even during the day she would often be aware of its presence; high noon might stand over the prairie, with the sun shedding a flood of light that fairly blinded the sight, but through and behind the light she would see it—huge and horrible it was, the eyes always closed, with only those empty, cavernlike sockets beneath the brows.

As she went about doing her work, now, she would frequently be seized by a faintness so great that she had to sit down. . . . How was this going to end? she asked herself. Yes, how would it end? . . . Vague premonitions hovered about her like shadows. Many times she was on the point of asking her husband if he saw what she did, towering above the prairie out west; but always she seemed to be tongue-tied. . . . Well, why mention it? Couldn't he and the others see it perfectly well for themselves? How could they help it? . . . She noticed that a silence would often fall upon them when they were out-of-doors, especially in the evening. Certainly they saw it! . . . Every evening, now, whether Per Hansa was away or at home, she hung something over the windows—it helped shut out the fear. . . .

At first her husband made all sorts of fun of this practice of hers; he teased her about it, as if it were a good joke, and continued to force his caresses on her, his voice low and vibrant with pent-up emotion. But as time went on he ceased laughing; the fear that possessed her had begun to affect him, too. . . .

THE JOY LUCK CLUB

THE MOTHERS

Sayuan Woo
An-mei Hsu
Lindo Jong
Ying-ying St. Clair

THE DAUGHTERS

Jing-mei "June" Woo
Rose Hsu Jordan
Waverly Jong
Lena St. Clair

