YOU ARE REQUIRED TO WRITE THREE ESSAYS IN TOTAL, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION. ALL ESSAYS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

SECTION ONE: MODERNISM

1. Paul Klee remarked in 1948 that, ‘[f]rom the root the sap flows to the artist, flows through him, flows to his eye’ (from Harrison and Wood 2003: 362). Discuss how this idea is understood in modernist theory with specific reference to two artists of choice.

2. Modernism was received into South Africa as a formalistic Western idea of art making (Bucknall 2015). Analyse this with reference to the ‘The New Group’.

3. Robert Goldwater identifies that artists have four ‘channels’, namely, the ‘romantic, emotional, intellectual and the ‘subconscious’ (Goldwater 1938: xxii). Discuss these phenomena in relation to the work of Paul Gauguin and his use of subject matter and colour.
SECTION TWO: POSTMODERNISM

4. Feminist discourse can still ‘grant an uneasy selfhood to a voice that is best described as the property of ‘postcolonial Woman’ (Ashcroft 2011: 250). Discuss how this statement reflects in the identity of the South African female Black artist with specific reference to Tracey Rose and Berni Searle.

5. The British graffiti artist Banksy depicts universal imagery within his art which he identifies as ‘brandalism’. Discuss the use of signs and commodification in postmodernist iconology.

6. Is it true that Modernism concentrates on the conceptualisation of the artist while Postmodernism heralds the concern of only the Text itself? Comment and expand on this debate applying relevant theory and examples of the works from artists of your choice.

END