

BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMME

Term-End Examination

December, 2018

04381

ELECTIVE COURSE : ENGLISH

BEGE-106 : UNDERSTANDING POETRY

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer questions no. 1, 2 and 3 and any two of the remaining questions in not more than 800 words each.

1. (a) Scan *one* of the following passages and comment on its prosodic features : 10
- (i) The splendour falls on castle walls
And snowy summits old in story :
The long light shakes across the lakes,
And the wild cataract leaps in glory.
- (ii) Touch her not scornfully;
Think of her mournfully,
Gently and humanly;
Not of the stains of her,
All that remains of her,
Now is pure womanly.

(h) I heard him say : my daughter, she's just
 turned fifteen...
 Feel her. I'll be back soon, your bus
 leaves at nine,
 The sky fell on me, and a father's exhausted
 wile.
 Long and lean, her years were cold as rubber.
 She opened her wormy legs wide. I felt
 the hunger there,
 the other one, the fish slithering,
 turning inside.

3. Evaluate Milton as a poet based on your understanding of the poems prescribed in your syllabus. 16
4. Critically comment upon Gray's *Elegy Written In A Country Churchyard*. 16
5. What are the chief characteristics of Romantic poetry ? Explain with reference to the poems of Shelley and Keats in your course. 16
6. Is it correct to say that Victorian poetry is but a pale imitation of Romantic poetry ? Give a reasoned answer. 16

7. Attempt a critical appreciation of any *one* of the following poems :

16

- (a) "The Negro Speaks of Rivers"
- (b) "Sunflower Sutra"
- (c) "The Emperor of Ice-cream"
- (d) "The Dead Baby"

8. Attempt an evaluation of any *one* of the following poets with reference to the poems in your course :

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- (a) Andrew Marvell
 - (b) Arun Kolatkar
 - (c) Philip Larkin
 - (d) Robert Browning
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Note : Answer questions no. 1, 2 and 3 and any *two* of the remaining questions.

1. Explain any *three* of the following passages with reference to the context, supplying brief critical comments where necessary : *3×12=36*
- (a) When I consider how my light is spent
Ere half my days, in this dark world and wide,
And that one talent which is death to hide
Lodged me useless, though my soul more bent.
- (b) Belinda now, whom thirst of fame invites,
Burns to encounter two adventurous knights,
At Ombre singly to decide their doom;
And swells her breast with conquests yet to come.

(c) Drive my dead thoughts over the universe
Like withered leaves to quicken a new birth !

(d) Sir, 't was not
Her husband's presence only,
 called that spot
Of joy into the Duchess' cheek :

(e) We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,
But no longer at ease here,
 in the old dispensation,
With an alien people clutching their gods.
I should be glad of another death.

2. Read closely and scan *one* of the following passages and comment on the use of metre and rhyme in it.

12

(a) With ravished ears,
The monarch hears;
Assumes the God
Affects to nod,
And seems to shake the spheres.

(b) Take her up tenderly,
Lift her with care;
Fashion'd so slenderly,
Young, and so fair !

3. Write brief notes on any *two* of the following : $2 \times 6 = 12$
- (a) Cadence
 - (b) Ottava Rima
 - (c) Terza Rima
 - (d) Assonance
 - (e) Epanaphora
4. Write critical appreciation of any *one* of the following poems : 20
- (a) 'Roll on, Thou Deep and Dark Blue Ocean'
 - (b) The Unknown Citizen
 - (c) Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening
 - (d) The Bird of Time
5. Would you consider the great Victorian poets as closely following the principles of Romanticism ? Give reasons in support of your answer. 20
6. Account for the greatness of Shakespeare's poetry. 20
7. Consider A.K. Ramanujan and Jayant Mahapatra as representative voices of Indian experience. 20
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