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B. A. (GENERAL) (CBCS)

(BAG)

Term-End Examination

December, 2021

BEGC-133 : BRITISH LITERATURE

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : *All questions are compulsory.*

1. Explain any **four** of the following passages with reference to the context (around **150** words each) :

4×8=32

- (i) “How strange it is to be talked to in such a way ! You know, I’ve always gone on like

that—I mean the noble attitude and the thrilling voice. I did it when I was a tiny child to my nurse. She believed in it. I do it before my parents. They believe in it.”

- (ii) “Out, out, brief candle.

Life’s but a walking shadow, a poor player

That struts and frets his hour upon the stage

And then is heard no more; it is a tale

Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury

Signifying nothing.”

- (iii) “Is this a dagger which I see before me,

The handle toward my hand ? –

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Come, let me clutch thee :

I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.

Art thou not fatal vision, sensible

To feeling as to sight ?”

(iv) Ah ! miserable and unkind, untrue,

Unknightly, traitor-hearted!

Woe is me!

Authority forgets a dying king,

Laid widow'd of the power in his eye,

That bow'd the will.”

(v) “The old order changeth,

Yielding place to new,

And God fulfils himself in many ways,

Lest one good custom should

Corrupt the world.

Comfort thyself : what comfort is in me ?”

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2. Write short notes on any *four* of the following

(around **100** words each) : 4×6=24

(i) Theatre in the Elizabethan period.

(ii) The ‘Banquet Scene’ in *Macbeth*.

(iii) Thomas Hardy and the fictional territory of Wessex.

(iv) The title of the novel *Far from the Madding Crowd*.

(v) Characteristics of Victorian poetry that distinguished it from the poetry of the Romantic period.

3. Write short essays on any *two* of the following

(around **200** words each) : 2×12=24

(i) Explain with suitable examples how Bernard Shaw’s plays discuss some of the

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important social issues of Britain in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

(ii) Write a brief critical essay on the major characters in *Far from the Maddening Crowd*.

(iii) Explain how Tennyson relates the medieval values highlighted in the poem "Morte d'Arthur", to the Victorian Age.

4. Answer any **one** of the following (in around **300** words) :

Discuss the dramatic significance of the soliloquy in *Macbeth*. Critically analyse any **one** soliloquy in the play.

10+10

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Or

"Bernard Shaw's play *Arms and the Man* is a satire of romanticised notions of the love and war." Comment on this statement. 20

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