

BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMME

Term-End Examination

June, 2017

00028

ELECTIVE COURSE : ENGLISH

BEGE-106(S) : 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 curfew tolls the knell of parting
day,
The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the
lea,
The ploughman homeward plods his
weary way,
And leaves the world to darkness and
to me.
- (ii) Weave a circle round him thrice,
And close your eyes with holy dread,
For he on honey-dew hath fed,
And drunk the milk of Paradise.

(b) Write short notes on any *two* of the following : 2×5=10

- (i) Quantitative Metres
- (ii) Assonance
- (iii) Rhyme
- (iv) Sonnet
- (v) Satire
- (vi) Dramatic Monologue

2. Explain any *four* of the following passages with reference to their contexts, supplying brief critical comments where necessary : 4×8=32

(a) It voices my joys, my longings, my
Hopes, and it is useful to me as cawing
Is to crows or roaring to the lions, it
Is human speech, the speech of the mind
that is
Here and not there, a mind that sees and
hears and
Is aware.

(b) Well, son, I'll tell you :
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.
It's had tacks in it,
And splinters,
And boards torn up,
And places with no carpet on the floor —
Bare.

- (c) Greater than stars or suns,
 Bounding, O soul, thou journeyest forth;
 — What love, than thine and ours could
 wider amplify ?
- (d) Shall I say, I have gone at dusk through
 narrow streets
 And watched the smoke that rises from the
 pipes
 Of lonely men in shirt-sleeves,
 leaning out of windows ? ...
- (e) Tho' much is taken, much abides; and tho'
 We are not now that strength which in old
 days
 Moved earth and heaven; that which we are,
 we are;
 One equal temper of heroic hearts,
 Made weak by time and fate, but strong in
 will
 To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.
- (f) 'I grant him all the kindest can accord;
 And this was well for him, but not for those
 Millions who found him what oppression
 chose.
- (g) Let not Ambition mock their useful toil,
 Their homely joys, and destiny obscure;
 Nor Grandeur hear with a disdainful smile
 The short and simple annals of the poor.

(h) When in disgrace with fortune and men's
eyes

I all alone beweepe my outcast state,

And trouble deaf heaven with my bootless
cries,

And look upon myself and curse my fate

3. Make a critical comment on Shakespeare's sonnets in your syllabus. 16
 4. What do you understand by the term "The Augustan Age"? Base your answer on the poems of Dryden and Pope in your course. 16
 5. Critically examine Shelley as a romantic poet. 16
 6. Does Victorian poetry offer a comment on the age in which it was written? Discuss. 16
 7. Does Seamus Heaney respond to the political situation in Northern Ireland in his poems? Comment. 16
 8. Can A.K. Ramanujan be called an Indian English poet in the sense in which the term is used? Examine. 16
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