

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

December, 2017

21391

MEG-1 : BRITISH POETRY

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer question no. 1 and any four from the remaining questions.

1. Explain any *two* of the following passages with reference to their contexts and supply brief critical comments where necessary : *10+10=20*

(a) Wel coude he sitte on hors, and faire ryde.
He coude songes make and wel endyte,
Juste and eek daunce and wel
 purtreye and wryte.
So hote he lovede, that by nightertale
He sleep namore than dooth a nightingale.

(b) In heaven at his manour I him sought :
They told me there, that he was lately gone
About some land, which he had
 dearly bought
Long since on Earth, to take possession.

- (c) Receiv'd of wits an undistinguish'd race,
 Who first his judgment ask'd, and
 then a place :
 Much they extoll'd his pictures,
 much his seat,
 And flatter'd ev'ry day, and some days eat :
- (d) While on the perilous ridge I hung alone,
 With what strange utterance did
 the loud dry wind
 Blow through my ears ! the sky
 seemed not a sky
 Of earth, and with what motion
 moved the clouds.
- (e) As here I lie
 In this state-chamber, dying by degrees,
 Hours and long hours in the dead
 night, I ask
 “Do I live, am I dead ?”

2. “Language became to him [Spenser] a willing servant, and could voice the subtlest shades of mood or fancy.” Examine E. De Selincourt's opinion on Spenser with suitable examples from his poetry.

20

3. "Dryden's compositions are the effects of a vigorous genius operating upon large materials." Do you agree with Samuel Johnson's opinion? Provide examples from Dryden's poetry in support of your answer. 20
4. For William Blake, "Childhood is both, itself and a symbol of a state of soul which may exist in maturity." Comment on Sir Maurice Bowra's criticism in the light of your reading of Blake. 20
5. "The great Victorian poets lacked the fire and passion which we find in the poets of the Romantic Revival, but they excelled them in breadth of outlook and variety of method." Discuss. 20
6. Comment on the influence of Indian scriptures on T.S. Eliot's poetry with special reference to *The Waste Land*. 20
7. Critically evaluate any *one* of the following poems : 20
- (a) The Garden
 - (b) The Blessed Damozel
 - (c) The Bishop Orders His Tomb at St. Praxed's Church
 - (d) And Death Shall Have No Dominion
 - (e) Lady Lazarus