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BEGC–133

B. A. (GENERAL) (CBCS)

(BAG)

Term-End Examination

December, 2023

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 (in around **150** words each) : 4×8=32

(a) “And Pity, like a naked new-born babe,
Striding the blast, or heaven’s Cherubins,
hous’d

Upon the sightless couriers of the air,

P. T. O.

Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,

That tears shall drown the wind.

I have no spur

To prick the sides of my intent, but only,

Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself

And falls on th' other."

(b) "He child the sisters,

When first they put the name of king upon

me,

And bade them speak to him, then, prophet-

like,

They hail'd him father to a line of kings :

Upon my head they plac'd a fruitless

crown,

And put a barren sceptre in my gripe."

- (c) “He did it like an operatic tenor—a regular handsome fellow, with flashing eyes and lovely moustache, shouting a war-cry and charging like Don Quizote at the windmills. We nearly burst with laughter at him; but when the sergeant ran up as white as a sheet, and told us they’d sent us the wrong cartridges, and that we could’nt fire a shot for the next ten minutes, we laughed at the other side of our mouths.”
- (d) “So flash’d and fell the brand Excalibur;

But ere he dipt the surface, rose an arm

Clothed in white samite, mystic,
wonderful,

And caught him by the hilt, and
brandished him,

Three times and drew him under, in the
mere.”

- (e) “For now I see the true old times are dead,
When every morning brought a noble chance
And every chance brought out a noble
knight.

Such times have been not since the light
that led

The holy Elders with the gift of myrrh.”

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

(in around **100** words each) : $4 \times 6 = 24$

- (a) Elizabethan theatre
(b) The dramatic significance of the soliloquy
in *Macbeth*

- (c) The three phases of Thomas Hardy's writing
- (d) The character of Bathsheba Everdene in *Far from the Madding Crowd*
- (e) Bernard Shaw's depiction of class distinctions in the play *Arms and the Man*.
3. Write short essays on any *two* of the following (in around **200** words each) : $2 \times 12 = 24$
- (a) Why is Tennyson considered a true representative of the Victorian age ?
- (b) The character of Bluntschli in *Arms and the Man*.
- (c) The significance of the title of Hardy's novel *Far from the Madding Crowd*.

4. Answer any *one* of the following in around
300 words : 20

What, in your opinion, is the role played by the
witches in bringing about the tragedy of
Macbeth ?

Or

Consider *Arms and the Man* as an anti-
romantic comedy.