B.A. 1st Semester (Honours) Examination-2022-23

ENGLISH

Course ID : 10312   Course Code : AH/ENG/102/C-2

Course Title : British Poetry and Drama: From Old English Period to 17th Century

(New Syllabus)

Time : 2 Hours   *Full Marks :* 40

The figures in the right hand margin indicate full marks.
Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

1. Answer **any one** question :   10×1=10

   (a) Critically summarize Geoffrey Chaucer's *Prologue to The Nun's Priest's Tale* and comment on the purposes it serves.

   (b) "The spacious argumentation of Shakespeare's Sonnet No, 118 is a form of apology for infedility?" — Discuss.

2. Answer **any one** question :   10×1=10

(a) Comment critically on Macbeth's character as re-vealed in his soliloquies.

(b) Banquo dead is dramatically as important as alive. Do you support? Answer with appropriate illustrations from the text.

(c) Write an essay on the significance of magic and fairies in *A Midsummer Night's.*

(d) How are the characters of Hermia and Helena contrasted in *A Midsummer Night's Drea*m?

3. Answer **any two** questions :   5×2=10

(a) Assess Cynewulf as an Old English religious poet with reference to 'The Fates of the Apostles'.

(b) Write a short note on *Ancrene Riwle.*

(c) Write a note on any one of the Scottish Chaucerians.

(d) Comment Critically on *Gorboduc.*

(h) How would you distinguish between a simile and a meta-phor?

(i) Scan the following and mention the dominant metrical pattern with variations, if any:

The land's sharp feature seemed to be

The century's corpse outleant.

(j) Define a pyrrhic foot.

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or

(b) Assess the contribution of Ben Jonson as an Elizabethan dramatist.

4. Answer **any** *five* questions : 2×5=10

(a) What though the field be lost? All is not lost"-What, according to the speaker, is "not lost"?

(b) How is Satan's shield described in *Milton's Paradise Lost*?

(c) "That Shepherd, who first taught the chosen seed"- Who was "That Shepherd' and who were the "chosen seed"?

(d) "To do aught good never will be our task"-What aspect of the speaker's character is revealed in this line?

(e) "This Nymph, to the Destruction of Mankind, Nourish'd two locks"-How are the "two locks" of Belinda described?

(f) "Or as Ixion fix'd, the wretch shall feel"-Who is Ixion? Who is referred to as "the watch"?

(g) Define the rhetorical figure chiasmus with an example.

4. Answer **any** *five* questions : 2×5=10

(a) "Whoa!" quod the Knight, "Good sir, no more of this" - What does the speaker mean by 'this' here? What does he demand instead of 'this'?

(b) "...let baser things devize/ To dy in dust, but you shall live by fame" - When did the speaker say this? Give the meaning of "baser things".

(c) "Thou, sun, art half as happy as we" - Why is the sun "half as happy as we"?

(d) "O fearful meditation!" - What "fearful meditation" is referred to here?

(e) "Even so, being full of your ne'er-cloying sweetness, / To bitter sauces did I frame my feeding" - Give the meanings of "ne'er-cloying sweetness" and "bitter sauces".

(f) "When our actions do not, / Our fears do make us traitors" — Who says this and in which context?

(g) "The night is long that never finds the day" - Comment briefly.

(h) "Apollo flies, and Daphne holds the chase" - What does the speaker imply by this line?

(i) What mistake does Puck commit in the application of the love-potion? What are the consequences of his mistake?

(j) "And therefore is winged Cupid painted blind" - What explanation does the speaker give for Cupid being painted blind?

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Course Title : British Poetry and Drama: 17th and 18th Century

(Old Syllabus)

1. (a) Comment critically on the character of Satan with reference to his first speech in *Paradise Lost*.

     $10 \times 1 = 10$

     or

   (b) Comment on Pope's representation of the 18th century society in *The Rape of the Lock.*

2. (a) Consider the character of Tony Lumpkin in Goldsmith's *She Stoops to Conquer*. $10 \times 1 = 10$

     or

   (b) Would you consider Goldsmith's *She Stoops to Conquer* as a successful anti-sentimental comedy? Give reasons for your answer.

3. (a) Write an essay on the development of the Comedy of Manners in the second half of the 17th century.

     $10 \times 1 = 10$