

M.A. 2nd Semester Examination, 2022

ENGLISH

Course Code: ENG/201/C

Course ID: 20351

Course Title: *British Novel I*

Time: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 40

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Answer all the questions.

UNIT I

1. Answer *any one* of the following questions:

1 x 12 = 12

- a) How did Robinson Crusoe get “wrecked on a desert island”? What were the events that had brought him there?
- b) Do you consider it legitimate to read *Robinson Crusoe* from a post-colonial perspective? Discuss.
- c) Explore Heathcliff as the ultimate outsider in the context of *Wuthering Heights* and the Victorian period.
- d) Analyse how *Wuthering Heights* inverts the form and axioms of the bildungsroman.

UNIT II

2. Answer *any one* of the following questions:

1 x 12 = 12

- a) “Suffering has been stronger than all other teaching, and has taught me to understand what your heart used to be. I have been bent and broken, but – I hope – into a better shape”. – Discuss *Great Expectations* in the light of the above quote.

- b) "...each in his prison" – How does the Eliotian phrase apply to the majority of characters depicted in *Great Expectations*?
- c) Comment on the narrative technique of Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*.
- d) Would you agree with the view that Kurtz is at the centre of *Heart of Darkness*? Justify your answer.

UNIT III

3. Answer *any four* of the following questions:

4 x 4 = 16

- a) "He offered me also sixty pieces of eight more for my boy Xury". – Who is referred to as "he" and who is Xury? Explain.
- b) "...and thus I kept my calendar". How did Crusoe prepare his calendar and why did he need to go for it?
- c) Comment briefly on Heathcliff's treatment of Isabella in *Wuthering Heights*.
- d) "I . . . wondered how any one could ever imagine unquiet slumbers, for the sleepers in that quiet earth". – What do you make of Lockwood's prim rationality in the context of the shepherd boy's horror?
- e) Describe Pip's first encounter with Magwitch in the marshes.
- f) "Moths, and all sorts of ugly creatures, hover about a lighted candle. Can the candle help it?" – Comment on Estella's statement and Pip's response.
- g) Bring out the importance of the Inner Station in *Heart of Darkness*.
- h) Briefly comment on the Company's chief accountant in *Heart of Darkness*.

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