

41/Eng.

SKBU/UG-I/Eng.-I(H)/16



2016
ENGLISH
[HONOURS]

Paper : I

Full Marks : 100

Time : 4 Hours

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

UNIT-A

(Marks - 40)

1. Answer any **two** of the following : $12 \times 2 = 24$
- a) Would you consider *Beowulf* as an epic? Give reasons for your answer.
 - b) Make a critical assessment of the contribution of Chaucer to English literature and language.
 - c) What is meant by 'Renaissance'? How did 'renaissance' figure in the works of the "University Wits"?
 - d) Write a critical note on the origin and effect of "Metaphysical School of Poetry" with special reference to the contribution of Donne.

[Turn over]

e) What were the chief characteristics of Restoration comedy of Manners? Make a short discussion on the works of its chief exponents.

2. Answer any **two** of the following : $5 \times 2 = 10$

a) Show your acquaintance with the Anglo-Saxon elegies.

b) Write a note on King Alfred's contribution to English Prose.

c) Consider '*Piers Plowman*' as a significant achievement in Middle English literature.

d) What are the salient features of Shakespearean comedies?

e) Why and how was there a 'decline of drama' in the Post-Shakespearean period?

f) Make a brief account on the contribution of Addison to the development of periodical literature.

3. Answer any **three** of the following : $2 \times 3 = 6$

a) Why are the years 1385 and 1485 important?

b) Name the major cycles of Middle English Metrical Romances.

c) What were the first English tragedy and comedy?

d) What is the name of the elegy Milton wrote? Why did he write it?

e) Name two tragedies written by Marlowe. When was Marlowe born?

f) What makes 1688 notable in English Socio-Political history? Who came to the throne after that?

g) Name two major epistolary novels written in the 18th century. Who were their authors?

UNIT-B

(Marks - 60)

4. Answer any **two** of the following : $12 \times 2 = 24$

a) Show how Sidney's sonnet No.1 "*Living in Truth*" (from *Astrophel and Stella*) is poem a construction on the themes of (i) Romantic Love (ii) Romantic theory of Poetic creation.

b) Critically judge the anti-Petrarchan elements and style in Shakespeare's sonnet No.130.

c) Compare Donne and Marvell in respect of their treatment of love and time with special reference to *The Good Morrow* and *To His Coy Mistress*.

- d) What is an 'epic simile? Critically examine any two epic similes from *Paradise Lost, Book 1* and comment on Milton's grand style.
- e) Consider Pope's *The Rape of the Lock* as an "apotheosis of the trivial" or a "triumph of the insignificance".

OR

Comment critically on Dryden's use of satiric art in *Mac Flecknoe*.

- f) Write a note on Shakespeare's use of imagery in the sonnets prescribed in your syllabus.
5. Explain with reference to the context, any **three** of the following passages : $6 \times 3 = 18$
- a) "'Fool', said my Muse to me, 'look in thy heart, and write'."
- b) "Not so (quoth I), let baser things live by fame:
My verse your virtues rase shall eternize."
- c) "As the death-bed where on it must expire,
consum'd with that which it was nourish'd by."
- d) "And yet by heaven I think my love as rare As
any she belied with false compare."

- e) "To reign is worth ambition though in hell :
Better to reign in hell, than serve in heaven."
- f) "Nor, in thy marble vault, shall sound
My echoing song : then Worms shall try
That long preserv'd Virginity :"

6. Answer any **nine** of the following : $2 \times 9 = 18$

- a) What is meant in the line : "Thus great with
child to speak, and hopeless in my throes."
- b) "Biting my truant pen" – Explain the image.
- c) "For I myself like to this decay
And eek my name by wiped out likewise".
– What does the speaker want to suggest here?
- d) Name and explain the figures of speech used
in the line : "But came the tide, and made my
pains his prey."
- e) "... where late the sweet birds sang".
Where did the sweet birds, actually sing?
Explain the use of pun on 'birds' and refer to
the historical event relevant for this line.

- f) "To love that well which thou must leave ere long". What is meant for "that"?
- g) Briefly comment on the following line :
"If snow be white, why then her breasts are dun."
- h) What is indicated by "seven sleepers den"?
- i) Explain the meaning embedded in the lines :
"My vegetable love should grow
Vaster than Empires and more slow."
- j) What does the image suggest?
"... like am'rous birds of prey
Rather at once our Time devour".
- k) What are the two rivers mentioned in Marvell's *To His Coy Mistress*?
- l) Given the choice of time, how long would the lover in *To His Coy Mistress* have spent in love making and how would he love?
- m) "Briarios or Typhon" – Who are they?
- n) Give the meaning of the following terms :
Phoebus, Diana's Law, Shock, Zephyr.

OR

'As Hannibal did to the altars come' – Comment on the allusion.

- o) What remain unchanged when a woman turns into a sylph after death?
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