



Department of Social Sciences

M.A. (Previous) Examination, 2016

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Model Paper: 1

Second Paper

English Literature: Elizabethans and Augustans

Time: 3 hours

Marks: 100 marks

Attempt 5 questions in all, selecting at least one question from each section. Question 1 is compulsory. All questions carry equal marks.

Q1. Explain with reference to context any four of the following extracts, adding critical notes where necessary: 4*5=20

a) Let it be so; thy truth, then, be thy dower:
For, by the sacred radiance of the sun,
The mysteries of Hecate, and the night;
By all the operation of the orbs
From whom we do exist, and cease to be;
Here I disclaim all my paternal care,
Propinquity and property of blood,
And as a stranger to my heart and me
Hold thee, from this, for ever. The barbarous Scythian,
Or he that makes his generation messes
To gorge his appetite, shall to my bosom
Be as well neighbour'd, pitied, and relieved,
As thou my sometime daughter.

b) You are my sister;

This was my father's poniard, do you see?

I 'd be loth to see 't look rusty, 'cause 'twas his.

I would have you give o'er these chargeable revels:

A visor and a mask are whispering-rooms

That were never built for goodness,--fare ye well--

And women like variety of courtship.

What cannot a neat knave with a smooth tale

Make a woman believe? Farewell, lusty widow.

c) He that dies in an earnest pursuit is like one that is wounded in hot blood; who, for the time, scarce feels the hurt; and therefore a mind fixed, and bent upon somewhat that is good, doth avert the dolours of death. But, above all, believe it, the sweetest canticle is', Nunc dimittis; when a man hath obtained worthy ends, and expectations. Death hath this also; that it openeth the gate to good fame, and extinguisheth envy. – Extinctus amabitur idem.

d) Chaste women are often proud and froward, as presuming upon the merit of their chastity. It is one of the best bonds, both of chastity and obedience, in the wife, if she think her hus-band wise; which she will never do, if she find him jealous. Wives are young men's mistresses; companions for middle age; and old men's nurses. So as a man may have a quarrel to marry, when he will. But yet he was reputed one of the wise men, that made answer to the question, when a man should marry, a young man not yet, an elder man not at all. It is often seen that bad husbands, have very good wives; whether it be, that it raiseth the price of their husband's kindness, when it comes; or that the wives take a pride in their patience.

e) As virtuous men pass mildly away,

And whisper to their souls to go,

Whilst some of their sad friends do say

The breath goes now, and some say, No:

So let us melt, and make no noise,

No tear-floods, nor sigh-tempests move;

'Twere profanation of our joys

To tell the laity our love.

f) HE is stark mad, whoever says,

That he hath been in love an hour,

Yet not that love so soon decays,

But that it can ten in less space devour;

Who will believe me, if I swear

That I have had the plague a year?

Who would not laugh at me, if I should say

I saw a flash 1 of powder burn a day?

g) WHERE, like a pillow on a bed,

A pregnant bank swell'd up, to rest

The violet's reclining 1 head,

Sat we two, one another's best.

Our hands were firmly cemented

By a fast balm, which thence did spring;

Our eye-beams twisted, and did thread

Our eyes upon one double string.

h) Of Man's First Disobedience, and the Fruit

Of that Forbidden Tree, whose mortal taste

Brought Death into the World, and all our woe,

With loss of Eden, till one greater Man

Restore us, and regain the blissful

Seat, Sing Heav'nly Muse, that on the secret top

Of Oreb, or of Sinai, didst inspire

That Shepherd, who first taught the chosen

Seed, In the Beginning how the Heav'ns and Earth

Rose out of Chaos: Or if Sion Hill

Delight thee more, and Siloa's Brook that flow'd

Fast by the Oracle of God; I thence

Invoke thy aid to my advent'rous Song,

That with no middle flight intends to soar

Above th' Aonian Mount, while it pursues

Things unattempted yet in Prose or Rhyme.

Section A

- 1) What does Prospero say about the conspiracy against his life? What effect does the recollection of the conspiracy have upon Prospero? 20

OR

- 2) Discuss the relationship between Cordelia and Lear, and compare it to the relationship between Edgar and Gloucester. 20

OR

- 3) In your own words explain the assassination of Duchess of Malfi. What kind of mentality is depicted in "Duchess of Malfi"? 20

Section B

- 1) What are Francis Bacon's main arguments in his essay "Of Adversity"? 20

OR

- 2) Write a note on Donne as a poet. Elaborate the theme and meaning of poem "The Canonization". 20

OR

- 3) Summarize the poem "A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning" in your own words. 20

OR

- 4) Why did the poet urge his beloved to feel gratitude for the flea? Why he called the flea body as temple? 20

Section C

- 1) Justify how Battle of books is mock-heroic. 20

OR

- 2) Explain and justify Milton's use of God as a character. Consider how the work would be different if God were not a character. 20

OR

- 3) Discuss the excellences of Shakespeare as depicted by Samuel Johnson. 20

OR

- 4) Write the bio sketch of Pope. Discuss the dream that Blinda had the day when her lock was raped.

OR

- 5) Explain how Jonathan Swift wrote *The Battle of the Books* as a prose satire. In which library is the battle supposed to have taken place? 20