

West Bengal State University
B.A./B.Sc./B.Com. (Honours, Major, General) Examinations, 2010

PART-I (Honours)

ENGLISH

PAPER-II

Duration : 4 Hours

Full Marks : 100

(Choose questions from either the New Syllabus or the Old Syllabus. Please do not mix questions from the two papers)

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

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

(NEW SYLLABUS)

Answers that are to the point, precise and clear will be given special credit. Spelling and grammatical errors are liable to be penalised.

SECTION - 1

1. Answer any *three* of the following questions 3 × 5 = 15
- a) Name two major verse-satirists of the period 1660-1744. Describe briefly any one verse satire of the period.
 - b) What were the main features of the 'Graveyard School' of poetry ? Who were the main exponents of this type of poetry ?
 - c) Briefly state the themes of *two* poems of Dryden that refer to contemporary political events.
 - d) With reference to two major poetical works of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century, discuss the influence of Puritanism on English poetry.
 - e) Mention in brief the characteristics of Restoration and Augustan religious poetry with reference to two poets.

SECTION – 2

2. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 10
- a) Analyse any two speeches of Satan in *Paradise Lost* Book-I. Show how his character is revealed through the use of language and tone.
 - b) What is an epic simile ? To what purpose does Milton use this convention in *Paradise Lost* Book-I ? Give three examples.
 - c) How and why does Milton fuse Pagan and Christian elements in the Invocation of *Paradise Lost* Book-I ?
3. Attempt any *two* of the following questions : 2 × 5 = 10
- a) How does Milton portray the fallen angel Moloch ?
 - b) Comment on the role of Mammon in *Paradise Lost* Book-I.
 - c) Describe Pandemonium.
 - d) How do the followers of Satan react when Satan's imperial flag is unfurled ?
4. Annotate any *three* of the following : 3 × 2 = 6
- a) Tuscan artist
 - b) Thammuz
 - c) Leviathan
 - d) Titans
 - e) Beelzebub.

SECTION - 3

5. Answer any *one* of the following questions 10
- a) Comment on Pope's depiction of any four specific aspects of eighteenth century social life in *The Rape of the Lock*.
 - b) Comment on Pope's mock-epic use of the following epic conventions :
 - i) The invocation
 - ii) The arming of the hero in *The Rape of the Lock*.
 - c) What constitutes the 'machinery' in *The Rape of the Lock* ? How significantly does it control the tone of the poem ?
6. Attempt any *two* of the following questions : 2 × 5 = 10
- a) Give a description of Belinda's toilette table.
 - b) What were the various higher tasks assigned to the spirits of the 'Aerial Kind' ?
 - c) What was the occasion of the composition of *The Rape of the Lock* ? What was included in the 1714 version and from which book did Pope draw his inspiration ?
 - d) How does Pope describe Belinda in her journey on the river Thames ?
7. Annotate any *three* of the following : 3 × 2 = 6
- a) 'Inferior priestess'
 - b) Ixion
 - c) 'Fatal Engine'
 - d) Atlantis
 - e) Gnomes.

SECTION - 4

8. Answer any *one* of the following questions 12
- a) Do you agree with Dr. Johnson that Gray's *Elegy* "abounds with images that find a mirror in every mind" ? Give reasons for your answer.
 - b) Write a critical appreciation of *The Solitude of Alexander Selkirk*.
 - c) How do Blake's poems *The Lamb* and *The Tyger* show the 'contrary states of the human soul' ?
9. Contextualize and explain any *two* of the following : 2 × 8 = 16
- a) "Some mute inglorious Milton may here rest,
Some Cromwell guiltless of his country's blood."
 - b) "O Solitude ! Where are the charms
That sages have seen in thy face ?
Better dwell in the midst of alarms
Than reign in this horrible place."
 - c) When the stars threw down their spears
And water'd heaven with their tears
Did he smile his work to see ?
 - d) He is called by thy name
For he calls himself a Lamb
He is meek and he is mild
He became a little child.
10. Locate and explain the figures of speech in the passage given below 5
- The curfew tolls the knell of parting day
The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea,
The ploughman homeward plods his weary way,
And leaves the world to darkness, and to me.

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(NEW SYLLABUS)

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SECTIONS - 1 & 2

1. Answer any *four* of the following questions 4 × 5 = 20
- a) How is Heorot described in the extract from *Beowulf* that you have read ?
 - b) What is the cause of Deor's sadness ? How does he console himself ? Discuss with reference to the extract.
 - c) What does Caedmon say about the Creator in his *Hymn* ?
 - d) Assess the importance of the *Anglo Saxon Chronicle* in the history of English Literature.
 - e) Examine and explain Chaucer's use of images to describe the season in his Prologue to *The Canterbury Tales*.
 - f) How significant is the use of colour symbolism in the extract of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* ?

SECTIONS – 3, 4 & 5

2. Answer any *three* of the following questions : 3 × 10 = 30
- a) How does Shakespeare explore the theme of 'Time' and 'Beauty' in Sonnets 18 and 73 ?
 - b) 'Loving in Truth' is more about writing poetry than about love. Do you agree ? Justify.
 - c) Identify and explain four typical 'metaphysical' features in Donne's *The Good Morrow* or Marvell's *To His Coy Mistress*.
 - d) Consider the theme of lost innocence in Vaughan's *The Retreat*.
3. Answer any *one* of the following questions 1 × 10 = 10
- a) What are Bacon's chief aims as an essayist and how does he achieve them ? Answer with special reference to *Of Studies* or *Of Travail*.
 - b) How representative of the age is the prose style of Burton or Browne ? Discuss with reference to the extracts you have read.
4. Answer any *five* of the following questions 5 × 2 = 10
- a) How does Spenser wish to eternalise his love in *One day I wrote her name upon the strand* ?
 - b) Give one example from *The Good Morrow* which shows Donne's interest in geography.
 - c) Explain : "Times winged charriot".

- d) What is the difference between the structure of the Shakespearean and the Petrarchan sonnet ?
- e) What does Vaughan mean by "bright shoots of everlastingness" ?
- f) Identify and explain any one image used by Shakespeare in Sonnet .116 to describe 'true love'.
- g) When did King James' Authorized Version of the *Bible* appear ? What is its significance ?
- h) What does Burton have to say about 'Man's Excellency' in *The Anatomy of Melancholy* ?

SECTION - 6

5. Scan the following passage, identify the predominant meter and indicate the variations if any : 1 × 5 = 5

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day ?

Thou art more lovely and more temperate :

Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,

And summer's lease hath all too short a date.

SECTION - 7

6. Answer any *five* of the following questions 5 × 5 = 25

- a) How have the Roman missionaries been instrumental during the seventh century in bringing Latin loans to England ?
- b) Examine the Scandinavian influence on English grammar and syntax.
- c) The French influence on the English Language shows a superior culture. Give examples from two fields to prove this.

- d) Write a short note on Back formation.
- e) Give three examples of 'Johnsonese'. Are these words a hindrance or help to the English Language ?
- f) Identify five hybrid words in English. Explain how these words have helped to enrich the English Language.
- g) Show the impact of the phraseology of the *Bible* on the English Language. Give three examples.
- h) Identify three ways in which British English has been influenced by American English.