

M.A. (Previous) EXAMINATION, 2018

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Fourth Paper

(Bacon to Eliot)

Time allowed: Three hours

Maximum marks: 100

The paper will contain ten questions having two questions from each unit. The candidates are required to attempt five questions in all, selecting at least one question from each unit.

Unit-I

1. Explain with reference to their context, any four of the following extracts in about 125-150 words each. 5×4
 - (a) It is indifferent for judges and magistrates; for if they be facile and corrupt, you shall have a servant five times worse than a wife.
 - (b) In this quarrel whole rivulets of ink have been exhausted and the virulence of both parties enormously augmented. Now it must be here understood, that ink is the great massive weapon in all battles of the learned.
 - (c) Thrice he endeavoured to force his passage and thrice the centre shook. The spider within, feeling the terrible convulsion, supposed at first that nature was approaching to her final dissolution; or else, that Beelzebub, with all his legions was come to average the death of many thousands of his subjects, whom this enemy had slain and devoured.
 - (d) Most of them recorded nothing else of the buried person, but that he was born upon one day and died upon another, the whole history of his life being comprehended in those two circumstances that are common to all mankind.
 - (e) Unmarried men are best friends, least masters, best servants, but not always best subjects, for they are light to run away and almost all fugitives are to that condition.
 - (f) I conceive that words are like money, not the worse for being common but that it is the stamp of custom alone that gives them circulation or value.
 - (g)for the helmet was nine times too large for the head, which appeared situate far in the hinder part, even like the lady in a lobster, or like a mouse under a canopy of state, or like a shrivelled beau from within the pent-house of a modern periwig,....

Unit-II

Answer the questions in not more than 500 words each :

2. Write a note on Bacon's style with suitable illustrations from the text prescribed. 20
3. Present a critical analysis of 'Sunday in the Country'. 20

Or

What is the significance of the Spider and the Bee episode in the 'Battle of the Books' ? 20

Unit-III

4. Discuss the salient features of Hazlitt's essays. 20
5. Explain the main principles of the political economy of the day which Ruskin has criticised in his Unto The Last. 20

Or

Attempt a critique of Mill's 'On Liberty'.

Unit-IV

6. Discuss Moll Flanders as a picaresque novel. 20
7. What makes Goldsmith's Vicar of the Wakefield one of the best known and best loved figures in fiction ? 20

Or

Bring out the social realism in Jane Austen's 'Mansfield Park'. 20

Unit-V

8. Write an estimate of Thackeray's art of characterisation in Vanity Fair. 20

Or

Attempt a character analysis of Heathcliff. 20

9. Write a note on the treatment of the theme of temptation in 'Middlemarch'. 20

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