

CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY
ENGLISH HONOURS QUESTION PAPERS – 2015

(PART – I & II)

PART – I

FIRST PAPER – 2015

Full Marks – 100

HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

GROUP – A

(Old English Period - 1750)

Three questions will have to be answered (*one* question of 16 marks and *two* questions of 7 marks each) taking only *one* from each section. Examinees are not allowed to answer twice from the same section.

Section – 1

1. Write an essay on Old English Christian Poetry. (600 words) 16
2. Write a short note on *one* of the following: (250 words)
 - (a) The Owl and the Nightingale 7
 - (b) The Canterbury Tales 7

Section – 2

3. Write an essay on the contribution of the University Wits to English drama with special reference to *any two* dramatists. (600 words) 16
4. Write a short note on *one* of the following: (250 words)
 - (a) John Donne 7
 - (b) Volpone 7

Section – 3

5. Write a short essay on the importance of the Restoration Comedy of Manners with special reference to *any two* playwrights. (600 words) 16
6. Write a short note on *one* of the following: (250 words)
 - (a) The Dunciad 7
 - (b) Robinson Crusoe. 7

GROUP – B

(1750 - 2000)

Three questions will have to be answered (*one* question of 16 marks and *two* questions of 7 marks each) taking only *one* from each section. Examinees are not allowed to answer twice from the same section.

Section – 1

7. Give an account of the English Personal essay of the Romantic Period with special reference to any *two* essayists. (600 words) 16
8. Write a short note on *one* of the following: (250 words)
- (a) William Blake 7
- (b) Life of Dr. Johnson. 7

Section – 2

9. Assess the contribution of *any two* major Victorian poets. (600 words) 16
10. Write a short note on *one* of the following : (250 words)
- (a) Walter Pater 7
- (b) The Mill on the Floss. 7

Section – 3

11. Give an account of the Theatre of the Absurd in England. (600 words) 16
12. Write a short note on *one* of the following : (250 words)
- (a) Virginia Woolf 7
- (b) The Waste Land. 7

Philology**Group – A**

13. Answer *any one* of the following (450 words) : 12
- (a) Comment on the influence of Latin and Greek on the English language.
- (b) Examine the influence of French on the English language.

Group – B

14. Write word notes on *any four*: 2×4
- Kindergarten, admiral, assassination, bus, children, climax, by-law, trusteeship.

Group – C

15. Answer *any one* (450 words) :
- (a) Evaluate the importance of the American influence on English. 12
- (b) Discuss the importance of Derivation as a word-formation process.

Group – D

16. Answer *any one* of the following (300 words) : 8
- (a) Examine Shakespeare's influence on the English Language.
- (b) Comment on the debt that the English language owes to Milton.
- (c) Explain the Consonant Shift in the English language.

SECOND PAPER – 2015**Full Marks – 100****Group – A**

1. Answer *any one* question of the following (within 500 words) : 14×1
- (a) Discuss how Marvell uses the theme of 'Carpe diem' to convey his feelings in *To His Coy Mistress*.

(b) How does Blake depict the "two contrary states of the human soul" in *The Tyger* and *The Lamb*?

Group – B

2. Answer *any two* questions of the following (each within 500 words) : 14×2

(a) *Tintern Abbey* records different stages in Wordsworth's appreciation of Nature. Discuss.

(b) Comment on the 'romantic' qualities in Coleridge's *Kubla Khan*.

(c) Write a note on Shelley's use of imagery in *Ode To The West Wind*.

(d) Analyse the theme and imagery of Keats's *Ode To A Nightingale*.

3. Explain *any one* of the following with reference to the context (within 300 words) 8×1

(a) I wonder by my troth, what thou and I
Did, till we lov'd? Were we not weaned till then?
But suck'd on country pleasures, childishy?
Or snorted we in the Seven Sleepers' den?

(b) We look before and after,
And pine for what is not :
Our sincerest laughter
With some pain is fraught;
Our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest thought.

Group – C

4. Answer *any one* of the following (within 500 words) : 14×1
- (a) Attempt a critical appreciation of Shakespeare's *Sonnet No. 87*.

(b) Show how Shakespeare deviates from conventional Elizabethan love-poetry in *Sonnet No. 130*.

Group – D

5. Answer **any one** question of the following (within **500** words) :
14×1

(a) Comment on the Invocation in Milton's *Paradise Lost*, Book I.

(b) Critically comment on Milton's 'grand style' in *Paradise Lost*, Book I, with close reference to the text.

Group – E

6. Answer **any one** question of the following (within **500** words) :
14×1

(a) Pope's *The Rape of the Lock* is a critique of eighteenth century society. Discuss.

(b) Write a note on the function of the supernatural machinery in Pope's *The Rape of the Lock*.

Group – F

7. Write notes on **any two** of the following literary terms (in around **150** words each) :
4×2

(i) Pastoral Elegy (ii) Satire (iii) Heroic Couplet (iv) Symbol.

PART – II**THIRD PAPER – 2015****Full Marks – 100****Group – A****(Word Limit: 600 words for Question Nos. 1 and 2)**

1. (a) Critically consider Marlowe's portrayal of Younger Mortimer in *Edward II*. 16

Or, (b) Comment on Marlowe's treatment of the irony of kingship in *Edward II*. 16

2. (a) Comment on the significance of the role of the Athenian artisans in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with special reference to Nick Bottom. 16

Or, (b) Examine the theme of love in its various dimensions in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. 16

3. Explain **any one** of the following with reference to the context (word limit : **300** words) : 8×1

(a) Something still buzzeth in mine ears,

And tells me, if I sleep I never wake ;

This fear is that which makes me tremble thus ;

And therefore tell me, wherefore art thou come?

(b) If we shadows have offended,

Think but this, and all is mended,
That you have but slumber'd here
While these visions did appear.

Group – B

4. Write notes on **any two** of the following literary terms within **200** words each : 5×2

Catharsis, Dramatic Irony, Hubris, Soliloquy.

Group – C**(Word Limit: 600 words for Question Nos. 5 and 6)**

5. (a) Would you consider the title of Sheridan's *The Rivals* an appropriate one? Justify your response. 16

Or, (b) Comment on the role played by any **two** of the women characters in *The Rivals*. 16

6. (a) Analyse the Sleepwalking Scene (Act V, Sc. i) in Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and bring out its dramatic significance. 16

Or, (b) Critically comment on the responses of Macbeth and Banquo to the Witches' prophecy. 16

7. Explain the following with reference to the context (Word limit: **350** words each) : 9×2

(a) Naught's had, all's spent,

Where our desire is got without content.

'Tis safer to be that which we destroy

Than by destruction dwell in doubtful joy.

Or, (b) I see thee yet, in form as palpable

As this which now I draw.

Thou marshall'st me the way that I was going ;

And such an instrument I was to use.—

(c) It is not to be wondered at, ma'am; all this is the natural consequence of teaching girls to read. Had I a thousand daughters, by Heaven! I'd as soon have them taught the black art as their alphabet !

Or, (d) Well, Sir, since you are so bent on it, the sooner the better; — let it be this evening—here, by the Spring—Gardens.—We shall scarcely be interrupted.

FOURTH PAPER – 2015**Full Marks - 100****GROUP – A**

1. Answer **any one** of the following questions (within **600** words) :
16×1

(a) (i) In *Pride and Prejudice* Jane Austen uses irony as an instrument of social criticism. Discuss.

Or, (ii) *Pride and Prejudice* lives and moves in the character of Elizabeth Bennet. Examine the appropriateness of the remark.

(b) (i) Critically analyse the major conflicts in Scott's *Kenilworth*.

Or, (ii) Examine the plot of *Kenilworth*.

GROUP – B

2. Answer **any one** of the following questions (within 600 words) :

16×1

(a) Critically analyse 'Of Studies' to bring out Bacon's qualities as an essayist.

(b) Comment on Orwell's narrative technique in 'Shooting an Elephant'.

3. Explain with reference to the context **any one** of the following passages within 300 words :

8×1

(a) I had grown to my desk, as it were; and the wood had entered into my soul.

(b) I often wondered whether any of the others grasped that I had done it solely to avoid looking a fool.

GROUP – C

4. Write notes (in around 200 words each) on **any two** of the following literary terms :

5×2

(a) Flat Character (b) Bildungsroman (c) Setting (d) Gothic Novel.

GROUP – D

5. Answer **any two** of the following questions (each within 600 words) :

16×2

(a) Show how Joyce's 'Araby' is a study of adolescence.

(b) How does H.E. Bates portray the character of Mrs. Thurlow in 'The Ox'?

(c) Comment on the fly episode of the story 'The Fly' and show how it relates to the theme.

GROUP – E

6. Answer **any one** of the following questions (within 700 words) :

18×1

(a) Discuss the allegorical meaning of *The Secret Sharer*.

(b) In *The Secret Sharer* the Captain's character changes after his encounter with Leggatt. Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer.