

West Bengal State University
B.A./B.Sc./B. Com. (Honours, Major, General) Examinations, 2014

PART - I

ENGLISH — HONOURS

PAPER - I

(Revised Syllabus)

(NEW & OLD SYLLABUS)

Duration : 4 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 100

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)

GROUP - A

1. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 500 words : $1 \times 15 = 15$
 - a) Discuss the epic features found in 'Beowulf'.
 - b) Comment on the blend of the ecclesiastical and the heroic elements in 'The Dream of the Road'.

- c) What is meant by Alliterative Revival in Middle English literature ?
Explain with reference to any one poem you have read.

2. Answer any *three* of the following questions, each in about 200 words :

3 × 5 = 15

- a) Write a short note on the contribution of Caedmon to Anglo-Saxon Christian poetry with reference to his 'Hymn'.

- b) Comment on any three of Alfred's translation projects.

- c) "Under welkin he walked, till the wine-palace there,

Gold-hall of men, he gladly discerned'

How has the poet described the palace being referred to ?

- d) Where is Canterbury ? When, according to Chaucer, do pilgrims want to go there ? Describe the season after Chaucer.

- e) Assess the contribution of Langland to Middle English literature.

GROUP - B

3. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 500 words : $1 \times 15 = 15$
- Assess Sidney's 'Loving in Truth' as a typical Petrarchan sonnet.
 - Write a short essay on Shakespeare's use of imagery with reference to the sonnets prescribed in your syllabus.
 - How does Marvell treat the theme of 'Carpe, diem' in the poem, 'To His Coy Mistress' ?
4. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 500 words : $1 \times 15 = 15$
- Write a note on Bacon's prose style with reference to either 'Of Friendship' or 'Of Death'.
 - Write a note on the phenomenal growth of English prose during the Elizabethan period.
 - Critically examine how Burton deliberates on 'Man's Excellency, Fall, Miseries, Infirmities; the causes of them'.
5. Answer any *two* of the following questions, each in about 200 words : $2 \times 5 = 10$
- Comment on the dramatic element in Spenser's 'One day I wrote her name upon the Strand'.

- b) 'And we in us find the eagle and the dove'
Explain with reference to the context.
- c) 'The rose that cannot wither,
Thy fortress, and thy ease.'
Explain with reference to the context.
- d) Write a brief note on the making of King James' Bible.
- e) Answer after Bacon, the attendants of man that win and combat over
Death.

GROUP - C

6. Answer any *two* of the following questions in about 450 words : $2 \times 10 = 20$

- a) Write briefly on French borrowings into English.
- b) Comment on the Latin borrowings during the Renaissance period.
- c) Write short notes on the following :
- i) Derivation
 - ii) Hybrids.

- d) Write a short note on Scandinavian borrowings into English.
- e) Write a note on loan words and loan translations of words of Indian origin into modern English.
7. Write philological notes on any *five* of the following : 5 × 2 = 10
- peon, lathi charge, tiffin-box, Gospel, egg, brethren, Kindergarten, gossip, cheap, picture.

(OLD SYLLABUS)

SECTIONS - I & II

1. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 4 × 5 = 20
- a) Describe the fight between Grendel and Beowulf.
- b) Write a note on the contribution of Caedmon to Anglo-Saxon Christian poetry with special reference to his *Hymn*.
- c) Discuss the salient features of Anglo-Saxon prose.
- d) Consider *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* as an allegory.
- e) Discuss Gower's style of writing with reference to any three of his poems.
- f) How integral is the *Prologue* to Chaucer's *the Canterbury Tales*.

SECTIONS - III, IV & V

2. Answer any *three* of the following questions : 3 × 10 = 30
- a) Critically analyze Shakespeare's Sonnet No. 116.
 - b) Would you consider *Loving in Truth* as a poem about writing poetry ? Justify your answer.
 - c) How skillfully has Marvell dealt with the theme of 'carpe diem' in *To His Coy Mistress* ?
 - d) Consider *The Retreat* as a religious poem.
3. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 1 × 10 = 10
- a) What did Bacon try to achieve in his essays ? Answer with special reference to the essays prescribed in your syllabus.
 - b) Mention two important features of Jacobean prose with reference to the extract you have read either of Richard Burton or of Thomas Browne.
4. Answer any *five* of the following questions : 5 × 2 = 10
- a) What is meant by truant pen in Sidney's *Loving in Truth*.
 - b) What is meant by 'summer's lease' ? What kind of figure of speech has been employed here ?
 - c) "Let us possess one world, each hath one, and is one." — Explain.

- d) Explain the imagery employed in the lines "Thus, though we cannot make our sun / Stand still, yet we will make him run."
- e) Comment on Burton's view of 'Man's Excellency.'
- f) How does Vaughan feel 'Bright shoots of everlastingness' through all the 'fleshly dress' ?
- g) Why Shakespeare does not consider Love to be 'Time's fool' ?
- h) Discuss the difference between the rhyme scheme employed in Petrarchan and Shakespearean sonnets.

SECTIONS - VI

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

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He is called by the name,

For he calls himself a lamb :

He is meek and he is mild,

He became a little child :

SECTIONS - VII

6. Answer any *five* of the following questions :

5 × 5 = 25

- a) Examine the Scandinavian influence on English grammar and syntax.
 - b) Discuss the characteristics of Latin loan words borrowed during the Renaissance.
 - c) Write a note on American slang.
 - d) What is 'Johnsonese' ? Explain with suitable examples.
 - e) Show how the use of Biblical phrases has become widespread in English language.
 - f) Write a short note on either 'Monosyllabism' or 'Back-formation'.
 - g) Examine the influence of French loan words on English language.
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