



WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY

B.A. Honours PART-II Examinations, 2017

ENGLISH-HONOURS

PAPER-ENGA-IV

NEW AND OLD SYLLABUS

Time Allotted: 4 Hours

Full Marks: 100

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.
Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.*

New Syllabus

Group-A

1. Answer any **four** questions from the following within 200 words each. 5×4 = 20
 - (a) Give two salient factors responsible for the growth of the English novel in the eighteenth century.
 - (b) Write a brief note on the salient features of the picaresque novel in the eighteenth century. Give two examples.
 - (c) Mention two reasons for the popularity of Robinson Crusoe.
 - (d) Briefly comment on the depiction of society by any one Victorian novelist with special reference to any one of his or her major novels.
 - (e) Enumerate in brief the distinctive features of *Wuthering Heights*.
 - (f) Briefly discuss Thackeray's contribution to English fiction with special reference to any one of his works.

Group-B

2. Answer the following Questions from the *two* sections, each within 15×2 = 500 words.

Section-I

- (a) '*Pride and Prejudice* lives and moves in the character of Elizabeth Bennet'. Do you agree? Answer with elucidations from the text.

OR

- (b) Critically examine the blend of irony and humour in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*.

OR

- (c) Would you consider *Jane Eyre* to be a feminist novel? How does the novel portray the position of women in Victorian society?

OR

- (d) Comment on the narrative technique in *Jane Eyre*.

Section-II

- (e) Do you agree with the view that the plot of *David Copperfield* consists of episodes which have not been welded into a unified whole? Give reason for your answer.

OR

- (f) Critically analyse *David Copperfield* as an autobiographical novel.

OR

- (g) Does Bathsheba's character change over the course of the novel *Far From the Madding Crowd*? Answer with close reference to the text.

OR

- (h) Critically consider *Far From the Madding Crowd* as a pastoral novel.

Group-C

3. Answer any *three* questions from the following, each within 400 words. 10×3 = 30

- (a) Discuss Lamb's blending of humour and pathos in 'Dream Children'.
(b) Critically comment on Addison's prose style in 'The Scope of Satire'.

- (c) In view of its subject matter, does the title 'Knowledge Its Own End' suit Newman's essay? Answer with close reference to the text.
- (d) What according to Arnold are the chief characteristics of an age which claims to be modern? Does he call his own age modern?

Group-D

4. Write short notes on any *five* from the following literary terms, each within 100 words: $4 \times 5 = 20$
- (a) Epistolary novel
 - (b) Flat and round character
 - (c) Gothic novel
 - (d) Sub-plot
 - (e) Bildungsroman
 - (f) Setting
 - (g) Realism.

Old Syllabus

Section-I

1. Answer any *two* questions from the following: $10 \times 2 = 20$
- (a) The rise of the middle class and the emergence of an increasingly female reading public greatly influenced the form and preoccupations of novels in the early 18th century. Do you agree? Justify your answer.
 - (b) Assess the contribution of Laurence Sterne to eighteenth century fiction writing with special reference to any one of his works.
 - (c) Discuss Walter Scott's handling of history in his historical novels.

(d) Discuss the contributions of women novelist of the Victorian Age.

2. Answer any *two* questions from the following: 5×2 = 10
- (a) Account for the popularity of *Robinson Crusoe*.
 - (b) What is Bildungsroman? Explain with reference to a novel of that genre.
 - (c) Name two Victorian non-fictional prose writers. Mention two features of their writings.
 - (d) Who is the author of *Vanity Fair*? What is the subtitle of the novel? What, according to you, are the main features of this novel?

Section-II

3. Answer briefly any *four* questions from the following: 5×4 = 20
- (a) In 'Dream Children: A Reverie', Charles Lamb has blended elements of humour and pathos. Explain with two examples.
 - (b) How did Hazlitt contribute towards the development of English prose?
 - (c) How did Journalism favour the rise of periodical essay?
 - (d) Write a brief note on Carlyle as an essayist.
 - (e) Assess the contribution of Cardinal Newman to the development of English prose.
 - (f) Name the distinguished Victorian non-fictional prose writer who represented the aesthetic school of criticism. Name at least two of his works and indicate the features of his prose.

Section-III

4. Answer any *one* question from the following: 15×1 = 15
- (a) Critically assess the appropriateness of the title *Pride and Prejudice*.
 - (b) Discuss the character of Elizabeth as the protagonist of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*.
 - (c) Critically analyze and comment on Bronte's narrative technique in *Jane Eyre*.
 - (d) Write an essay on the themes of childhood and education as reflected in *Jane Eyre*.

5. Answer briefly any **one** question from the following: 5×1 = 5
- (a) Assess the importance of Catherine de Bourgh in *Pride and Prejudice*.
 - (b) Comment on the importance of letters in *Pride and Prejudice*.
 - (c) Comment on the portrayal of the Bingley sisters in *Pride and Prejudice*.
 - (d) What role does Helen Burns play in Jane's growth?
 - (e) Do the paintings by Jane have any significance in the novel?
 - (f) Mention any two of the colonial elements in *Jane Eyre*.
6. Answer the following multiple choice questions from any **one** of the two groups. Indicate clearly which group you are attempting. 5×1 = 5

Group-A

- (a) The Bennet estate is entailed to
 - (i) Mr. Collins
 - (ii) the eldest daughter
 - (iii) Mr Darcy
 - (iv) Mr Wickham
- (b) Wickham tells Elizabeth that
 - (i) Darcy has cheated him
 - (ii) Darcy had dishonoured a woman
 - (iii) Darcy has extravagant ways
 - (iv) Darcy's father had been unfair to his family
- (c) Darcy uses his money and influence to
 - (i) save Lydia's honour
 - (ii) to arrange balls
 - (iii) for the upkeep of his estate
 - (iv) get his sister married.

(d) Lady Catherine wants Darcy to marry

- (i) Elizabeth
- (ii) Miss Bingley
- (iii) Lydia
- (iv) her daughter

(e) Darcy likes Elizabeth because

- (i) she was born in a well-to-do family
- (ii) she has a lively mind
- (iii) she will inherit a property in future
- (iv) she is proud and haughty.

Group-B

(a) *Jane Eyre* was first published by the author under a pseudonym. What was it?

- (i) Mary Ann Evans
- (ii) Currer Bell
- (iii) Jane Waters
- (iv) Anne Hathaway

(b) How does Bertha die?

- (i) Murder
- (ii) Illness
- (iii) Suicide
- (iv) Accident

(c) The gytrash Jane sees from the stile was:

- (i) A Goblin
- (ii) A horse
- (iii) A wolf
- (iv) A dog

- (d) Who was the manager of Lowood?
- (i) Mr. Fairfax
 - (ii) Mr. Mason
 - (iii) Brocklehurst
 - (iv) St. Rivers
- (e) Who is Jane's rival for Rochester's affections?
- (i) Mrs Fairfax
 - (ii) Miss Ingram
 - (iii) Bertha Mason
 - (iv) Celine Varens.

Section-IV

7. Answer any **one** question from the following: 15×1 = 15
- (a) Discuss Hardy's tragic vision as revealed in *The Return of the Native*.
 - (b) Critically comment on Hardy's use of chance and coincidence in *The Return of the Native*.
 - (c) Critically comment on Hardy's portrayal of the rustic characters in *Far From the Madding Crowd*.
 - (d) Analyse the role of Bathsheba Everdene in *Far From the Madding Crowd*.
 - (e) Discuss the range and variety of Dickens's art of characterization with reference to *Hard Times*.
 - (f) '*Hard Times* is a critique of utilitarian philosophy' — Discuss with reference to the text.
 - (g) *Oliver Twist* exposes the dark underbelly of the London world. Comment.
 - (h) Comment on Dickens's representation of women characters in *Oliver Twist*.
8. Answer any **one** question from the following: 5×1 = 5
- (a) Why did Wildev's first attempt to marry Thomasin fail?
 - (b) Write a short note on any one rustic character in *The Return of the Native*.

- (c) Describe in brief the Reddleman with his peculiarities in *The Return of the Native*.
 - (d) Comment on the significance of the storm scene in *Far From the Madding Crowd*.
 - (e) Describe the circumstance that led to the death of Farmer Boldwood.
 - (f) What is the significance of St. Valentine's day in *Far From the Madding Crowd*?
 - (g) Write a short note on Stephen Blackpool.
 - (h) Describe the role of Bounderby in *Hard Times*.
 - (i) What is the role of Sleary Circus in *Hard Times*?
 - (j) Describe Oliver's first meeting with Brownlow.
 - (k) Comment on Dickens's presentation of Monks. Why did he want to kill Oliver?
 - (l) Describe the episode where Oliver wants 'some more' in *Oliver Twist* and add your comments.
9. Answer the following multiple choice questions from any **one** of the **four** groups. Indicate clearly which group you are attempting: 5×1 = 5

Group-A

- (a) Wildeve's inn is named
 - (i) The Silent Woman
 - (ii) The Lonely Woman
 - (iii) The Quiet Woman
 - (iv) The Solitary Woman
- (b) Eustacia dies in
 - (i) Weir Wood Reservoir
 - (ii) Wessex Waters
 - (iii) Shade Water Weir
 - (iv) Rushy Pond

- (c) The title of 'Book Second' of *The Return of the Native* is
- (i) The Honest Woman
 - (ii) The Arrival
 - (iii) The Three Women
 - (iv) The Discovery
- (d) Susan Nunsuch made a wax image of
- (i) Mrs. Yeobright
 - (ii) Thomasin
 - (iii) Eustacia
 - (iv) Wildeve
- (e) *The Return of the Native* begins on
- (i) a Sunday morning in October
 - (ii) a Monday afternoon
 - (iii) a Saturday afternoon in November
 - (iv) a Saturday morning in November.

Group-B

- (a) The title *Far From the Madding Crowd* has been taken from:
- (i) *Arcadia*
 - (ii) *Shepard's Calendar*
 - (iii) "Elegy written in a Country Churchyard"
 - (iv) *Eclogues*
- (b) What is strange about Gabriel Oak's watch?
- (i) It keeps falling out of his pocket
 - (ii) The hour hand is loose, so it does not tell time properly
 - (iii) Queen Victoria gave it to him
 - (iv) It is made of solid gold.

- (c) The musical instrument that Farmer Oak could play was
- (i) Flute
 - (ii) Guitar
 - (iii) Banjo
 - (iv) Pipe
- (d) Who helps Gabriel Oak to protect the ricks during the storm?
- (i) Sergeant Troy
 - (ii) Cainy Ball
 - (iii) Joseph Poorgrass
 - (iv) Bathsheba Everdene
- (e) Gabriel Oak's older dog was named
- (i) Tom
 - (ii) Merrylegs
 - (iii) George
 - (iv) John.

Group-C

- (a) Which ideology or school of thought does the novel attack?
- (i) Antidisestablishmentarianism
 - (ii) Toryism
 - (iii) Socialism
 - (iv) Utilitarianism
- (b) In which publication was the novel published in weekly installments?
- (i) Household Worlds
 - (ii) Household Works
 - (iii) Household Words
 - (iv) Households All Around The Country.

- (c) Which character has the catchphrase, 'People mutht be amuthed'?
- (i) Sleary
 - (ii) Slackbridge
 - (iii) Signor Jupe
 - (iv) Stephen Blackpool
- (d) In Chapter 2, what is the name of the schoolmaster appointed to the class by Mr. Gradgrind?
- (i) Mr. McStranglekid
 - (ii) Mr. McDonald
 - (iii) Mr. M'Choakumchild
 - (iv) Mr. McNicotobabies
- (e) What is the name of Coketown's pub in which Gradgrind meets Sleary?
- (i) Unicorn's Arms
 - (ii) Pegasus's Arms
 - (iii) Farmer's Arms
 - (iv) Inspector Gadget's Arms

Group-D

- (a) Nancy was killed by
- (i) The Artful Dodger
 - (ii) Fagin
 - (iii) Bill Sikes
 - (iv) Monks
- (b) Oliver Twist is named by
- (i) His dying mother
 - (ii) His nurse
 - (iii) The parish beadle
 - (iv) Mr. Brownlow.

- (c) Monks is Oliver Twist's
- (i) Uncle
 - (ii) Cousin
 - (iii) Half-brother
 - (iv) Nephew
- (d) Oliver Twist is taken to Fagin's den by
- (i) Monks
 - (ii) Noah Claypole
 - (iii) Jack Dawkins
 - (iv) Toby Crackit
- (e) *Oliver Twist* was published serially in
- (i) *Bentley's Miscellany*
 - (ii) *Sketches by Boz*
 - (iii) *Athenaeum*
 - (iv) *Blackwood's Magazine*.