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Reg. No. :

Name :

First Semester M.A. Degree Examination, April 2024 *

English Language and Literature

Core Course I

Paper I : EL 511 : BRITISH LITERATURE — I

(2022 Admission Onwards)

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 75

I. Answer any five of the following questions in about 50 words.

1. What is the major idea of the "Death Song"?
2. Who is Peter Giles?
3. How does Bacon conclude his essay "Of Truth"?
4. Who is Balthazar?
5. What is the rhyme scheme of "Batter my Heart"?
6. What is a metaphysical conceit?
7. What is a Mock heroic poem?
8. Who is Umbriel?

(5 × 2 = 10 Marks)

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II. Answer any five of the following questions in about 100 words.

9. Examine Sir Patrick Spens as a literary ballad.
10. Elaborate on the theme of "Farewell Love".
11. Examine the refrain in "Prothalamion".
12. How does Book X of Paradise Lost end?
13. "The paths of glory lead but to the grave". Explain.
14. Elaborate on the sub plot of *The School for Scandal*.
15. What is an Epistolary Novel?
16. Describe the creature created by Victor Frankenstein.

(5 × 5 = 25 Marks)

III. Answer any two of the following questions in about 300 words choosing one from each section.

SECTION — A

17. Attempt a critical appreciation of "Let dainty wits cry on the sisters nine".
18. Elaborate on the major works of the University Wits.
19. Write an essay on the major literary works of the Anglo Saxon period.

SECTION — B

20. Examine *The Rape of the Lock* as a mock-heroic poem.
21. Discuss the images in Andrew Marvell's "To His Coy Mistress".
22. Analyse Samuel Richardson's *Pamela* as a Romantic novel.

(2 × 15 = 30 Marks)

IV. Answer any one of the following questions in about 150 words.

23. Present the main arguments in the given passage in not more than two sentences and attempt a one page critical note on the passage.

"I earnestly wish to point out in what true dignity and human happiness consists. I wish to persuade women to endeavor to acquire strength, both of mind and body, and to convince them that the soft phrases, susceptibility of heart, delicacy of sentiment, and refinement of taste, are almost synonymous with epithets of weakness, and that those beings are only the objects of pity, and that kind of love which has been termed us sister, will soon become objects of contempt. Dismissing then those pretty feminine phrases, which the men condescendingly use to soften our slavish dependence, and despising that weak elegance of mind, exquisite sensibility, and sweet docility of manners, supposed to be the sexual characteristics of the weaker vessel, I wish to show that elegance is inferior to virtue, that the first object of laudable ambition is to obtain a character as a human being, regardless of the distinction of sex; and that secondary views should be brought to this simple touchstone".

— Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*.

24. What is truth?" said jesting Pilate, and would not stay for an answer. Certainly, there be that delight in giddiness, and count it a bondage to fix a belief, affecting free-will in thinking as well as in acting. And though the sects of philosophers of that kind be gone, yet there remain certain discoursing wits which are of the same veins, though there be not so much blood in them as was in those of the ancients. But it is not only the difficulty and labor which men take in finding out of truth, nor again that when it is found it imposeth upon men's thoughts, that doth bring lies in favor, but a natural though corrupt love of the lie itself. One of the later school of the Grecians examineth the matter, and is at a stand to think what should be in it, that men should love lies where neither they make for pleasure, as with poets, nor for advantage, as with the merchant; but for the lie's sake. But I cannot tell: this same truth is a naked and open daylight that doth not show the masques and mummeries and triumphs of the world half so stately and daintily as candle-lights. Truth may perhaps come to the price of a pearl that showeth best by day; but it will not rise to the price of a diamond or carbuncle, that showeth best in varied lights. A mixture of a lie doth ever add pleasure. Doth any



man doubt that if there were taken out of men's minds vain opinions, flattering hopes, false valuations, imaginations as one would, and the like, but it would leave the minds of a number of men poor shrunken things, full of melancholy and indisposition, and unpleasing to themselves? One of the fathers, in great severity, called poesy *vinwn daemonum* [the wine of devils] because it filleth the imagination, and yet it is but with the shadow of a lie. But it is not the lie that passeth through the mind, but the lie that sinketh in and settleth in it that doth the hurt, such as we spake before. But howsoever these things are thus in men's depraved judgments and affections, yet truth, which only doth judge itself, teacheth that the inquiry of truth, which is the love-making or wooing of it: the knowledge of truth, which is the presence of it: and the belief of truth, which is the enjoying of it, is the sovereign good of human nature.

25. Evaluate the literary style of the writers from the Restoration age to the 18th century.

(1 × 10 = 10 Marks)

