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26 (EPCN)

[18–HRGPKAC–M1S (B)]

MA 1st Semester Exam., 2018 (Back)

ENGLISH

[MEG 03]

(English Poetry from Chaucer to the Neoclassical)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer any *five* from the following questions (each within *50* words) : 2×5=10

(a) Mention the difference between Petrarchan sonnet and Shakespearean sonnet.

(b) What is metaphysical conceit? Give an example.

(c) What are the early experiences of Geoffrey Chaucer that helped him create his characters for *The General Prologue*?

(d) *(i)* Define the term 'epic'.

(ii) What are the two kinds of epic? 1+1

(e) In what way can the poem *Absalom and Achitophel* be considered as a Biblical allegory?

(f) Who is Belinda in Alexander Pope's *The Rape of the Lock*?

2. Answer any *three* from the following questions (each within *150* words) : 4×3=12

(a) What idea of the medieval society do you receive after reading *The General Prologue* by Geoffrey Chaucer?

(b) Explain the significance of the concept of 'Time' in relation to Shakespeare's 'Sonnet 65'.

(c) (i) When was John Milton's *Paradise Lost* published?

(ii) What does Milton cite as his general purpose at the beginning of *Paradise Lost*?

(d) What does the poem, *The Rape of the Lock* by Alexander Pope satirize?

3. Explain any *three* of the following with reference to the context (each within *250* words) : 6×3=18

(a) "I have of comfort and despair,
Which like two spirits do suggest me still :
The better angel is a man right fair,
The worser spirit a woman colour'd ill."

(b) "One short sleep past, we wake eternally,
And Death shall be no more. Death, thou shalt die."

(c) "Of man's first disobedience, and the fruit
Of that forbidden tree, whose mortal taste
Brought death into the world, and all our woe."

(d) "In power unpleased, impatient of disgrace;
A fiery soul, which, working out its way,
Fretted the pigmy body to decay
And o'er-informed the tenement of clay."

4. Answer any *four* from the following questions (each within *500* words) : 10×4=40

(a) *The General Prologue* has been called a portrait of the fourteenth century England. Elaborate.

(b) Discuss the use of 'imagery' in Shakespearean sonnets. Elucidate your answer with reference to the sonnets you have read.

(c) "John Donne is regarded as the foremost of the metaphysical poets, whose poetry is both intense and riddling." Discuss.

(d) (i) What is mock-heroic tradition?

(ii) Critically analyze the mock-heroic elements in the poem, *The Rape of the Lock*. 4+6

(e) Do you agree that the political upheaval of the 17th century affects Dryden's writing? Justify your answer.

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