

**B.A. (Part-II) EXAMINATION, 2015**  
**ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**First Paper (English Poetry and Drama)**

**Time allowed : Three hours**

**Maximum marks : 100**

*All questions carry equal marks and all the five questions are compulsory. However, there is internal choice as part of utilization scheme.*

1. Explain with reference to context any four of the following in about 150-200 words : 5×4

- (a) Earth has not anything to show more fair :  
Dull would he be of soul who could pass by  
A sight so touching in its majesty :  
This City now doth like a garment wear  
The beauty of the morning,
- (b) Full many a gem of purest ray serene  
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear :  
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,  
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.
- (c) For I was reared  
In the great city, pent 'mid cloisters dim,  
And saw nought lovely but the sky and stars.  
But thou, my babe ! shalt wander like a breeze  
By lakes and sandy shores, beneath the crags  
Of ancient mountain, and beneath the clouds.
- (d) By the world,  
I think my wife be honest, and think she is not,  
I think that thou art just, and think thou art not,  
I'll have some proof. Her name, that was as fresh  
As Dian's visage, is now begrimed and black  
As mine own face.
- (e) Trifles light as air  
Are to the jealous confirmations strong  
As proofs of holy writ. this may do something.  
The Moor already changes with my poison :  
Dangerous conceits are in their natures poisons  
Which at the first are scarce found to distaste  
But with a little art upon the blood  
Burn like the mines of sulphur.

2. (a) Answer the following in about 15-20 words each : 10×1
- (i) Name any two poets who have been hailed as the precursors of Romanticism.
  - (ii) Whose death is said to have influenced Gray for the writing of his poem 'Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard' ?
  - (iii) From whom does Cowper receive his mother's picture as a gift ?
  - (iv) "I am not what I am" -- From which text has this line been extracted and who said this ?
  - (v) "It moves us not" -- Who composed this line and what is "it" that does not move us ?
  - (vi) "Myself will to my darling be  
Both law and impulse."  
Who have been here referred to as 'myself' and 'my darling' respectively ?
  - (vii) To whom does the 'old, mad dying king' refer to in "England in 1819" ?
  - (viii) What role does the 'village dog' perform in James Thomson's poem 'Winter' ?
  - (ix) Who has been referred to as a 'Wheeling stranger' by Shakespeare in his play 'Othello' ?
  - (x) Who informed Brabantio that his daughter Desdemona has secretly married Othello ?
- (b) Answer any two of the following in about 150-200 words each :
- (i) Express in your own words the experience Keats undergoes on reading Chapman's translation of Homer ?
  - (ii) Recount William Cowper's childhood memories as depicted in his poem "On the Receipt of My Mother's Picture Out of Norfolk".
  - (iii) Discuss the significance of the handkerchief in the plot of "Othello".

3. Attempt a critical appreciation of any one of the following poems :

(i) The Solitary Reaper

(ii) Ode to Autumn

(iii) Ode to A Skylark.

20

Or

Write a detailed critical note on Elegy with special reference to Thomas Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Church-yard". 20

4. The central conflict in "Othello" is between the racism of a black man and a white woman. Discuss the tragedy from this perspective giving apt examples from the play. 20

Or

Othello never falls completely and at the end of the play we feel "admiration and love" for the hero. Analyse Othello's character in the light of this statement. 20

Or

Othello's tragic end is motivated and engineered by Iago. Do you agree? Support your answer with suitable examples. 20

5. Write critical notes on any two of the following :

(i) Irony

(ii) Soliloquy

(iii) Blank verse

(iv) Catharsis. 20

Or

Write a detailed critical essay on "Tragedy". 20

Or

Discuss the characteristic features of the Romantic period with special focus on the writers prescribed for you. 20

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