

2007

ENGLISH

SECOND PAPER

*Full Marks: 80*

*Time: 3 hours*

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions*

(New syllabus)

**(Poetry I: Chaucer to Romantics)**

1. Write essay-type answers for any *four* of the following: 15×4=60
- a) Analyze Chaucer's reasons for structuring the *Prologue to the Canterbury Tales* in the manner of a 'gallery'. Comment, with illustrations from the text, on his choice of characters-in terms of inclusion and omission.
  - b) Discuss the 'addressee' in Shakespeare's sonnets. Would you say that they 'personalize' the poems? Answer with adequate examples from your text.
  - c) Assess the 'I-thou' relationship within the format of John Donne's poems. Would you say that these are merely intellectual exercises rather than love poetry?
  - d) Note how both Dryden and Pope bring in the personal into the public sphere in terms of their handling of social satire. Discuss the similarities and differences of their approaches with reference to their poems.
  - e) Write an. essay on Blake's, representation of 'God'/'divinity' in the *Songs of Innocence* and *Experience*. Illustrate your answer with reference to the symbols he uses in his poetry.
  - f) Contrast the images and stylistic devices used by Wordsworth (in *Composed upon Westminster Bridge*) and Byron (in Bk XI, *Don Juan*) in their rendering of their ideas of contemporary London. How do they achieve their effects in two entirely different genres (the lyric vis-à-vis narrative verse)?
  - g) "I fall upon the thorns of life/I bleed ... is a phrase that made Shelley notorious in modernist critical assessments. Discuss the reasons for this with examples from the text.
  - h) Trace the ideas of 'forgetfulness' and 'memory' evoked by Keats in *Ode to a Nightingale*. How do they contribute to notions of 'romantic melancholy' that is discernible in the period when he was writing?



their critique of the society? Compare their techniques and poetic devices with 'adequate examples.

- e) Assess Wordsworth's handling of the notion of 'fear; that is associated with nature in Bks I and II of *The Prelude*.

5. Write short notes on/Answer the following (any four): 5×4=20

- (a) The design of *The Canterbury Tales* as it begins to unfold in *The Prologue*
- (b) The notion of mutability and time in Shakespeare's sonnets
- (c) The 'playful' and complex imagery of Herbert's religious verse
- (d) The particular use of symbols in Blake's *Songs of Innocence and Experience*
- (e) Keats's ideas of forgetfulness and memory in the *Odes*
- (f) The narrative devices used by Byron in *Don Juan*
- (g) Explain with reference to the context:

"Where are the songs of spring?  
Ay, where are they?  
Think not of them-thou hast thy  
music too ..."

6. Answer any two of the following questions: 14×2=28

- a) "Tennyson is the most representative poet of the Victorian period." Discuss with reference to *In Memoriam*
- b) Evaluate Browning's handling of the Dramatic Monologue with special reference to the relevant poems prescribed for you.
- c) Bring out the salient features of Hardy's lyrical poetry from your reading of his poems prescribed for you.
- d) Characterize the mature style of Yeats's poetry with special reference to *Byzantium* and *Sailing to Byzantium*.
- e) Discuss the salient features of Auden's poetry with special reference to the poems prescribed for you.
- f) Write brief critical appreciations of any two of the following poems:
  - (i) *Poem in October*
  - (ii) *Thrushes*
  - (iii) *Church Going*
  - (iv) *Dover Beach*
  - (v) *Felix Randall*

7. Explain, any two of the following, with reference to their contexts: 6×2=12

- (a) That's the appropriate country;  
there man's thought  
Rarers intenser,  
Self-gathered for an outbreak, as it ought,  
Chafes in the censer.
- (b) When lovely woman stoops to folly and  
Paces about her room again, alone,  
She smooths her hair with automatic hand,  
And puts a record on the gramophone.
- (c) And may her bridegroom bring

her to a house

Where all's accustomed, ceremonious;  
For arrogance and hatred are the wares  
Peddled in the thoroughfares.

(d)           It was my thirtieth  
Year to heaven stood there then  
  in the summer noon  
Though the town below lay leaved with  
  October blood.

