



WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY
B.A. Honours PART-I Examinations, 2016

ENGLISH-HONOURS

PAPER-ENGA-II

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 *one* question within 500 words. 15×1 = 15
 - (a) Are the epic similes in *Paradise Lost*, Book I merely decorative or do they have special narrative functions? Give reasons for your answer.
 - (b) Discuss Milton's *Paradise Lost*, Book I as an epic delineating the conflict between good and evil.
 - (c) What does Milton propose in the first few lines of *Paradise Lost*, Book I? Is he following a certain convention in the Invocation? Discuss.

2. Answer any *two* questions within 200 words each. 5×2 = 10
 - (a) Why is Mammon described as 'the least erected spirit that tells'?
 - (b) How does Milton portray the fallen angel Chemosh?
 - (c) 'Better to reign in Hell, than serve in Heav'n' – Contextualise and explain.
 - (d) How was Pandemonium built? Who was the chief architect?

- (e) 'Ethereal temper, massy, large and round, Behind him cast; the broad circumference.
Hung on his shoulders like the Moon' – What is described here? Explain the simile.

Group-B

3. Answer any *one* question within 500 words. 15×1 = 15
- (a) Write a critical note on Pope's use of supernatural machinery in *The Rape of the Lock*.
- (b) 'The Rape of the Lock' is a commentary on the 18th century aristocratic society – Discuss.
- (c) Is Pope's treatment of Belinda in *The Rape of the Lock* a satirical commentary on feminine follies? Discuss with close reference to the text.
4. Answer any *two* questions within 200 words each. 5×2 = 10
- (a) 'Or, as Ixion fixed....' Contextualize and explain.
- (b) Briefly describe the game of Ombre.
- (c) Describe the different types of punishment designed by Ariel for the negligent sylphs.
- (d) How does Belinda react to the snipping of her lock?
- (e) How is the heroic couplet suited to Pope's use of irony in *The Rape of the Lock*?

Group-C

5. Answer any *one* question within 500 words. 15×1 = 15
- (a) Does Gray's *Elegy* conform to the features of a typical *elegy*? Discuss with reference to the text.
- (b) Discuss Blake's 'The Lamb' and 'The Tyger' as studies in contrary states of the human soul.
- (c) 'London' reflects Blake's extreme disillusionment with the sufferings of city life. Discuss with reference to the text.
- (d) Comment on the neo-classical features as depicted in Cowper's 'The Solitude of Alexander Selkirk'.

6. Answer any *three* questions within 200 words each. 5×3 = 15

- (a) What does Blake mean by “when the stars threw down their spears”?
- (b) “I am out of humanity’s reach.
I must finish my journey alone”- Explain.
- (c) Why does Blake use the word ‘charter’d’ in ‘London’ twice?
- (d) What does Gray say about the village poet?
- (e) ‘On a cloud I saw a child
And he laughing said to me’- What does the child say to the piper?

7. Identify, define and explain the figures of speech to be found in any *one* 15×1 = 15
from the following passages:

- (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
The city now doth like a garment wear
The beauty of the morning; silent, bare
Ships, towers, domes, theatres and temples lie
Open unto the fields, and to the sky,
All bright and glittering in the smokeless air.
- (b) O Wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn’s being,
Thou, from whose unseen presence the leaves dead,
Are driven, like ghost from an enchanter fleeing.
Yellow and black and pale and hectic red,
Pestilence stricken multitude: O thou
Who chariotest to their dark wintry bed
The winged seeds, where they lie cold and low,
Each like a corpse within its grave, until
Thine azure sister of the spring shall blow.

8. Scan any *one* passage and name the measure, pointing out variations, if any: $5 \times 1 = 5$

(a) I leant upon a coppice gate

When frost was spectre-gray,
And winter dregs made desolate
The weakening eye of day.

(b) The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,

And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave
Awaits alike the inevitable hour:
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

Old Syllabus

Section-I

1. Answer any *three* questions from the following: $5 \times 3 = 15$

(a) What are the main features of the 'Graveyard School of Poetry'? Who were the main exponents of this type of poetry?

(b) Why is the eighteenth century called the neo-classical age? Give reasons.

(c) Why are the Pre-Romantic poets called so? Mention any three characteristic features of Pre-Romantic poetry.

(d) Make a brief comparative estimate of Dryden and Pope as verse satirists.

(e) Write a short note on Pope's poetic style.

Section-II

2. Answer any *one* question from the following: 10×1 = 10
- (a) Do you think that the epic similes used by Milton in *Paradise Lost*, Book I are more functional than ornamental?
 - (b) Discuss Milton's treatment of Satan in *Paradise Lost*, Book I with references from the text.
 - (c) Comment on Milton's depiction of the fallen angels in *Paradise Lost*, Book I.
3. Attempt any *two* questions from the following: 5×2 = 10
- (a) What is Pandemonium? Who is the architect of Pandemonium?
 - (b) How does Milton describe Satan's shield and spear?
 - (c) Comment on the role of Beelzebub in *Paradise Lost*, Book I.
 - (d) How does Milton intend to 'justify the ways of God to men'?
 - (e) Explain Satan's exhortation:
"Awake, arise or be forever fall'n".
4. Annotate any *three* from the following: 2×3 = 6
- (a) Thammuz
 - (b) Vallombrosa
 - (c) Belial
 - (d) Moses
 - (e) Jehovah.

Section-III

5. Answer any *one* question from the following: 10×1 = 10
- (a) Comment on the use of supernatural machinery in Pope's *The Rape of the Lock*.

(b) 'The Rape of the Lock is called a Heroicomic Poem'. Do you agree? Give reasons.

(c) Consider *The Rape of the Lock* as a satire.

6. Attempt any *two* questions from the following: $5 \times 2 = 10$

(a) Critically comment on the phrase 'moving toyshop of their heart'.

(b) Describe the game of Ombre.

(c) Mention two instances of Pope's use of anti-climax in *The Rape of the Lock*.

(d) Describe Belinda's dressing table.

7. Annotate any *three* from the following: $2 \times 3 = 6$

(a) Clarissa

(b) Caryl

(c) Shock

(d) Ixion

(e) Hampton Court.

Section-IV

8. Answer any *one* question from the following: $12 \times 1 = 12$

(a) Consider Gray's 'Elegy' as an alienated poet's meditation on life and death.

(b) Discuss the Romantic features in Cowper's 'The Solitude of Alexander Selkirk'.

(c) Briefly discuss the symbolism in Blake's 'The Lamb' and 'The Tyger'.

9. Contextualise and explain any *two* from the following: $8 \times 2 = 16$

(a) Little Lamb who made thee

Dost thou know who made thee?

(b) Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

(c) Did He smile His work to see?
Did He who made the Lamb make thee?

(d) I am out of humanity's reach,
I must finish my journey alone.

10. Locate and explain the figures of speech in the passage below: 5

Whether the Nymph shall break Diana's law,
Or some frail China Jar receive a Flaw;
Or stain her Honour, or her new Brocade,
Forget her Pray'rs, or miss a Masquerade;