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First Semester M.A. Degree Examination, May 2022 English Language and Literature

Core Course

EL 214 : ROMANTICS AND VICTORIANS

(2017 Admission Onwards)

Time: 3 Hours Max. Marks: 75

- I. Write short answers on any five of the following in about 50 words.
- 1. The beauty and divinity of Nature in William Wordsworth's "Ode on the Intimations of Immortality".
- 2. Comment on dual identities in The Importance of Being Earnest.
- 3. The importance of setting in "The Blessed Damozel".
- 4. Myth and the superhuman in Shelley's *The Cenci*.
- 5. Mathew Arnold's definition of culture in "Sweetness and Light".
- 6. How does Jane Austen structure her plot in Mansfield Park?
- 7. The influence of society on individuals in George Eliot's *The Mill on the Floss*.
- 8. The poet's role according to Wordsworth.

 $(5 \times 2 = 10 \text{ Marks})$

II. Comment critically on any two of the following choosing one from each group

SECTION A

As thus with thee in prayer in my sore need.

Oh! lift me as a wave, a leaf, a cloud!

I fall upon the thorns of life! I bleed!

Thou, silent form, dost tease us out of thought

As doth eternity: Cold Pastoral!

SECTION B

- "On the contrary, Aunt Augusta, I've now realized for the first time in my life the vital Importance of Being Earnest."
- 12. "I can here play the gentleman, enact the student. To such a one as myself who has been defrauded in his young years of the sweet food of academic institution, nowhere is so pleasant, to while away a few idle weeks at, as one or other of the Universities."

 $(2 \times 5 = 10 \text{ Marks})$

- III. Write short notes on any two of the following in about 150 words.
- 13. The conflict between science and religion in the Victorian age.
- The cause-effect connection between cowardice and faith in "No Coward Soul Is Mine".
- 15. The indelibility of the past in Thomas Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge.
- 16. Hugh Walker's concept of New Age.

 $(2 \times 5 = 10 \text{ Marks})$

IV. Write essays on any three of the following in about 500 words choosing one from each section

SECTION A

- 17. Critically analyse humanity's connection with nature in Coleridge's "Dejection: An Ode."
- 18. What does it mean when the narrator in Hopkins' "Pied Beauty" states that God "fathers-forth whose beauty is past change"?
- 19. Characters in *The Importance of Being Earnest* mostly use adjectives like "bad" and "wicked" to make declarations about what is and isn't acceptable behaviour. Is there any actual virtue or wickedness in the play?

SECTION B

- 20. Elucidate the relationship between memory and nostalgia in Charles Lamb's essay prescribed for study.
- 21. What role does the theme of emotional constancy and love play in Dickens' David Copperfield?
- 22. Evaluate The Mill on the Floss as a feminist novel.

SECTION - C

- 23. Explain Hugh Walker's evaluation of the Victorian era from a contemporary theoretical point of view.
- 24. Discuss how M.H, Abrams' classification of literary theories makes the literary critic's task easier.
- 25. The gradual advancement of democratic principles and scientific thought influenced the literature of the Victorian age. Discuss.

 $(3 \times 15 = 45 \text{ Marks})$