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**3 SEM FYUGP ENGC3A**

**2025**

( Nov/Dec )

**ENGLISH**

( Core )

Paper : ENGC3A

( **British Literature : 18th Century** )

*Full Marks : 60*

*Time : 2 hours*

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

**UNIT—I**

1. Answer any *one* of the following : 10

- (a) Analyse, with specific examples from the works of major authors, how Enlightenment ideals influenced the literary works of the 18th century British literature.

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- (b) Discuss the impact of Neoclassicism on the 18th century British literature. How did authors like Alexander Pope, Jonathan Swift and Samuel Johnson explore the neoclassical tenets in their work?
- (c) Discuss the major features of Restoration Comedy with special reference to the works of the key playwrights of the period.
- (d) Examine the emergence of novel as a literary form in 18th century England. How did authors like Daniel Defoe and the 'four wheels of English novel' contribute to the development of the new form?
2. Write a short note on any *one* of the following :
- 5
- (a) Diverse subgenres of novel in the 18th century
- (b) Coffee houses and literary clubs as centres of intellectual exchange in 17th and 18th century England
- (c) Impact of the Periodical Press on the 18th century English literature and culture
- (d) Attitude towards the country and the city in eighteenth century literature

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UNIT—II

3. Answer any *one* of the following : 10
- (a) Examine the portrayal of gender roles and relationships in *The Way of the World* and comment on how the play depicts the social expectations and constraints placed on men and women during that period.
- (b) Examine how in his comedy *The Way of the World*, William Congreve uses clever language, wit and irony to comment on the social conventions, hypocrisy, and folly of the characters on one hand and to reveal character, advance plot, and explore themes on the other.
- (c) Discuss the representation of social class and status in *The Way of the World*. How do the characters' social positions influence their relationships, behaviours, and motivations?
- (d) Analyse the character development of Mirabell and Millamant in *The Way of the World*. How do their characters evolve throughout the play, and what do their relationships with each other reveal about their personalities, values and motivations?

4. Write a short note on any one of the following : 5
- The role of Lady Wishfort in *The Way of the World*
  - The theme of appearance vs. reality in *The Way of the World*
  - Significance of the title, *The Way of the World*
  - Mirabell's motivations and strategies in pursuing Millamant

## UNIT—III

5. Answer any one of the following : 10
- Discuss the themes of colonialism and imperialism in *Robinson Crusoe*. How does the novel portray the relationship between Crusoe and the native inhabitants of the island, particularly Friday? What commentary does the novel offer on European colonialism?
  - Analyse the theme of individualism and self-reliance in *Robinson Crusoe* with reference to Crusoe's experience on the island. What implications does this have for his character development?

- How does Crusoe's survival on the island transform him, both practically and morally? Consider the changes in his attitude towards God, his fellow human beings, and his own place in the world.
  - Discuss the effectiveness of the first person confessional narrative explored in *Robinson Crusoe*. How does it contribute to the novel's realism and immediacy?
6. Write a short note on any one of the following : 5
- Themes of capitalism and materialism
  - The role of providence and fate in *Robinson Crusoe*
  - Moral development of the protagonist in *Robinson Crusoe*

## UNIT—IV

7. Answer any one of the following : 10
- Discuss, on basis of your reading of Thomas Gray's *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*, the elegy's thematic focus on death, mourning and contemplations of morality.

- (b) Comment on the formal elements of elegy, such as stanza form, metre and rhyme scheme with reference to your prescribed text.
- (c) "*The Rape of the Lock* is a faithful and true reflection of the eighteenth century life in its manifold aspects." Examine the validity of the statement.
- (d) Analyse the mock-heroic style employed by Alexander Pope in *The Rape of the Lock*. How does he use the epic conventions, such as the invocation of the muse, battles, and heroic speeches to satirise the trivial concerns of the aristocracy?
8. Explain any *one* of the following with reference to the context : 5
- (a) Let not Ambition mock their useful toil,  
Their homely joys, and destiny obscure;  
Nor Grandeur hear with a disdainful smile  
The short and simple annals of the poor.
- (b) Full many a gem of purest ray serene,  
The dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear :  
Full many a flow'r is born to blush unseen,  
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.
- (c) But anxious cares the artful Sylphs employ,  
To guard the virgin's outmost skirts of dress;  
And swift as lightning, prevent the foe,  
The ambrosial hill of Cosmetic pow'rs supplies.

- (d) Now lapdogs give themselves the  
rousing shake,  
And sleepless lovers, just at twelve, awake :  
Th' appointed hour of morning now  
draws near,  
When grave Clarissa wipes her eyes,  
and yawns with care.
- (e) Then flashed the living lightning from her eyes,  
And screams of horror rend th' affrighted skies.  
Not louder shrieks to pitying Heav'n are cast,  
When husbands or when lapdogs  
breathe their last,  
Or when rich China vessels, fall'n from high,  
In glitt'ring dust and painted fragments lie!

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**3 SEM FYUGP ENGC3B**

**2025**

( Nov/Dec )

ENGLISH

( Core )

Paper : ENGC3B

( **Literary Criticism** )

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2 hours

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

UNIT—I

1. Answer any *one* of the following : 10

(a) In Book 10 of *The Republic*, Plato argues that the ultimate goal of human life is to achieve knowledge of the Form of the Good. How does he view the relationship between philosophy and art and how does this relate to his understanding of the human condition?

(b) What are the key arguments that Plato presents against poetry in Book 10 of *The Republic*?

(c) According to Aristotle, how do tragedies, comedies, and epic poetry differ in their uses of imitation? Do they ultimately

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have the same goal in their imitation or must all three be judged by different standards? Discuss.

(d) Define six elements requisite for a successful tragedy.

2. Answer any *one* of the following : 5

(a) How does Plato view the relationship between reality, appearance and art?

(b) Write a note on Aristotle's conception of Tragic Hero.

(c) Discuss Aristotle's concept of imitation. How does he differ from Plato?

UNIT—II

3. Answer any *one* of the following : 10

(a) How does Horace's *Ars Poetica* illuminate the drama and conventions of his era?

(b) What does Horace highlight in the main body of his critical theory, *Ars Poetica*?

(c) Explain the different sources of sublimity.

(d) How does Longinus distinguish between true and false sublime?

4. Answer any *one* of the following : 5

(a) Discuss briefly Horace's principle of Decorum in *Ars Poetica*.

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(b) How does Longinus in *On the Sublime* discuss nobility of diction as a source of sublime?

(c) How does Longinus define true grandeur in language?

UNIT—III

5. Answer any *one* of the following : 10

(a) "Of all writers under the sun, the poet is the least liar; and though he would, as a poet, can scarcely be a liar. For the poet, he nothing affirmeth, and therefore never lieth." How does Sidney react to Stephen Gosson's School of Abuse?

(b) How does Sidney prove superiority of Poetry over History and Philosophy?

(c) Discuss Dryden's *Essay of Dramatic Poesy* as a survey of contemporary critical schools.

(d) How does Dryden compare English and French drama in *Essay of Dramatic Poesy*?

6. Answer any *one* of the following : 5

(a) What are the three divisions that Sidney brings forth in poetry?

(b) What does John Dryden say about poetic justice in *Essay of Dramatic Poesy*?

- (c) How do Dryden's ideas in *Essay of Dramatic Poesy* differ from Pope's outlook?

UNIT—IV

7. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) In the first part of *An Essay on Criticism*, Pope makes general observation on the art of criticism. Elucidate.
- (b) "In his criticism, as in his poetry, Pope follows the classical tradition." Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
- (c) The analysis of Dr. Samuel Johnson's critical estimate in *Life of Cowley*, his methodology and perspectives further illustrate the evolving nature of literary criticism during the 18th century and its enduring influence. Discuss.
- (d) How does Dr. Johnson assess Cowley as a poet?

8. Answer any one of the following : 5

- (a) Write a note on the use of poetic diction in *An Essay on Criticism*.
- (b) Discuss Dr. Johnson's account of Metaphysical poetry in *Life of Cowley*.
- (c) Examine briefly Dr. Johnson's comparison of Milton and Cowley.

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