

Total No. of Printed Pages—7

3 SEM FYUGP ENGC3A

2024

(December)

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) Write a note on the principal tenets of Enlightenment and Neo-classicism that were applied to the literature of the eighteenth century.

- (b) Enlist the factors that led to the rise of the novel in the eighteenth century.
- (c) Describe the salient features of Restoration Drama with emphasis on the works of the key playwrights of the period.
- (d) Critically analyse the significance, contribution and impact of the periodical press in the eighteenth century.

2. Write a short note on any *one* of the following :

5

- (a) Country and the City in eighteenth century literature
- (b) Four wheels of the novel
- (c) Coffee houses and literary clubs of the age of restoration
- (d) John Dryden as a representative poet of the age
- (e) Whigs and Tories and the political melieu

UNIT—II

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

- (a) Critically comment on Millamant's character in Congreve's play, *The Way of the World* as a representation of the roles and agency of women in restoration society.
- (b) Congreve's play offers a commentary on the use of wit, cunning, deceit and manipulation in social interactions. Elucidate.
- (c) Evaluate/Examine the relevance of *The Way of the World* to contemporary debates on gender, class and social status.
- (d) Critically discuss Congreve's portrayal of the social and cultural norms of Restoration England in *The Way of the World*.

4. Answer/Write a short note on any *one* of the following: 5

- (a) Comment on the significance of the title, *The Way of the World*.

- (b) Character sketch of Mirabell
- (c) Love and man-woman relationships in *The Way of the World*

UNIT—III

5. Answer any one of the following :

10

- (a) Analyse the theme of isolation and solitude in *Robinson Crusoe* and discuss the psychological, emotional and moral effects of the protagonist's isolation.
- (b) Discuss the significance of Friday's character and examine his relationship to Crusoe in the light of Crusoe's relationships with other characters.
- (c) Critically comment on the influence of Puritanism and Protestantism on Defoe's writing with specific reference to religious ideology as the shaping influence of Crusoe's experiences.

- (d) Examine the social and economic context of *Robinson Crusoe* and show how it portrays eighteenth century England's colonial ambitions and imperial strategies.

6. Write a short answer on any *one* of the following :

5

- (a) Attempt a brief character sketch of Xury.
- (b) Write a note on slavery and colonialism in the novel.
- (c) How does the narrative technique of the novel contribute to its realism?

UNIT—IV

7. Answer any *one* of the following :

10

- (a) Critically discuss the themes of transience and mortality in Gray's *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*.
- (b) Critically evaluate Pope's *The Rape of the Lock* as a classic mock epic in terms of theme, structure and style.

(c) What is the significance of the game of Ombre in *The Rape of the Lock*?

(d) Consider *The Rape of the Lock* as a social satire on the restoration court culture, manners and mannerisms.

8. Explain any *one* of the following with reference to the context :

5

(a) The Curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea,
The plowman homeward plods his weary way,
And leaves the world to darkness and to me.

(b) Here rests his head upon the lap of earth
A youth to fortune and to fame unknown.
Fair Science frowned not on his humble birth,
And Melancholy marked him for her own.

(c) And now, unveil'd, the Toilet stands display'd,
Each silver Vase in mystic order laid.
First, rob'd in white, the Nymph intent adores,
With head uncover'd, the Cosmetic pow'rs.
A heav'nly image in the glass appears,
To that she bends, to that her eyes she rears;
Th' inferior Priestess, at her altar's side,
Trembling begins the sacred rites of Pride.

- (d) Soft o'er the shrouds aërial whispers breathe,
That seem'd but Zephyrs to the train beneath.
Some to the sun their insect-wings unfold,
Waft on the breeze, or sink in clouds of gold;
Transparent forms, too fine for mortal sight,
Their fluid bodies half dissolv'd in light,
- (e) This Nymph, to the destruction of mankind,
Nourish'd two Locks, which graceful
 hung behind
In equal curls, and well conspir'd to deck
With shining ringlets the smooth iv'ry neck.
Love in these labyrinths his slaves detains,
And mighty hearts are held in slender chains.

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