ED–2095

B. A. (Part I) EXAMINATION, 2021

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Paper First

(Literature in English : 1550—1750)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

Note : Attempt all questions.

1. Explain with reference to the context any three of the following passages :

(a) But thou, contracted to thine own bright eyes,
   Feed’st thy light’st flame with self-substantial fuel,
   Making a famine where abundance lies
   Thyself thy foe, to thy sweet self too cruel.

(b) How soon hath Time, the subtle thief of youth,
   Stolen on his ring my three and twentieth year!
   My hasting days fly on with full career,
   But my late spring no bud or blossom show’th.
(c) When Ajax strives some rock’s vast weight to throw,
The line too labours, and the words move slow;
Not so, when swift Camilla scours the plin,
Flies ‘O’er th’ unbending corn, and skims along the main.

(d) So if a man’s wit be wandering, let him study the mathematics; for in demonstrations, if his wit be called away never so little, he must begin again : if his wit be not apt to distinguish or find differences, let him study the schoolmen; for they are cymini sectores.

(e) For there is no man that imparteth his joys to his friend but he joyeth the more; and no man that imparteth his grief to his friend, but he grieveth the less.

(f) It is said, he keeps himself a bachelor by reason he was crossed in love by a perverse beautiful widow of the next country to him. Before this disappointment, Sir Roger was what you call a fine gentleman, had often supped with my Lord Rochester and Sir George
Etherege, fought a duel upon his first coming to town, and kicked bully Dawson in a public coffee-house for calling him youngster.

(g) Signior Antonio, many a time and oft,
In the Rialto, you have rated me
About my moneys and my usances.
Still have I borne it with a patient shrug
For suffrance is the badge of all our tribe.

2. Attempt any ten of the following questions : 1 each
   (i) Give the names of two Italian poets whose names are associated with the Renaissance.
   (ii) Who in England was known as ‘The true child of the Renaissance’ ?
   (iii) Who is considered to be the discoverer of the printing press ?
   (iv) Mention two historical plays of Shakespear.
   (v) Who referred to Bacon as ‘The wisest, brightest, meanest of Mankind’ ?
   (vi) Name three metaphysical poets.
   (vii) In which year did Charles II become the King ?
   (viii) Mention the names of three popular writers of Restoration Comedy.
   (ix) The ‘Productive activity in literature, art or music under the direct or indirect influence of the writings of Petrarch’ was known as ............
   (x) Name three existing plays of Seneca.
   (xi) Name two influential periodicals of the early 1700’s.

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(xii) Name two prominent periodical essayists of the eighteenth century.

(xiii) What is backgammon?

(xiv) What role did a Valet de Chambre play in English households?

3. Answer any five of the following: 10 each

(i) Write a critical appreciation of Shakespeare’s sonnet “From Fairest creatures”.

(ii) Write a brief summary with critical notes of Milton’s ‘How Soon Hath Time’.

(iii) Write a critical appreciation of Alexander Pope’s “An Essay on Criticism”.

(iv) Write an estimate of Bacon as an essayist.

(v) Write a summary of Addison’s ‘Sir Roger at Home’.

(vi) Write a character sketch of Portia in the Merchant of Venice.

(vii) Comment on the title of Swift’s monumental work “The Battle of Books”.