

**MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2025**  
**First Year, Second Semester**  
**ENGLISH**  
**Literary Theory: Classical to Enlightenment**

**Time: Two Hours**

**Full Marks: 30**

Answer *any three* of the following questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. How would you explain the evolution of Plato's ambivalence towards poetic mimesis, from reformation to outright condemnation, in *The Republic*?
2. Would you agree that Dryden propounds a poetics of nationalism in the *Essay of Dramatick Poesie*? Discuss with close reference to the text.
3. Compare the Platonic and Horatian attitudes towards poetic madness and poetic inspiration.
4. Examine the significance of Greek antiquity in German neoclassical aesthetic theory with reference to Schiller's "'On Naive and Sentimental Poetry'" and Lessing's "Laocoon".
5. 'Renaissance literary criticism is characterised by a tension between imitation and invention.' Discuss with references to *at least one* text.
6. What is the significance of the faculty of imagination in Kantian aesthetics?
7. Critically examine the case Aristotle's *Poetics* makes for the epistemological significance of poetry.

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