

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY  
BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2025  
THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER  
ENGLISH HONOURS  
Victorian Women Poets

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer any three questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. "In Elizabeth Barrett Browning's *Aurora Leigh*, the secondary storyline featuring the fall and redemption of Marian Erle is masterfully integrated with the primary storyline tracing Aurora Leigh's own evolution." Elaborate.
2. In what ways can "No Coward Soul Is Mine" be interpreted as an assertion of Emily Brontë's faith in divine presence? Substantiate your answer with suitable examples.
3. How do the adventures of Laura and Lizzie with the goblin merchants in Christina Rossetti's "Goblin Market" demonstrate the power of sisterhood? Answer with close reference to the poem.
4. Critically analyse Emily Dickinson's "It Feels a Shame to Be Alive" as a commentary on the American Civil War.
5. To what extent is Augusta Webster successful in giving an autonomous voice to a Victorian prostitute in "A Castaway"? Justify your answer.
6. Write an essay on Toru Dutt's use of the European sonnet tradition to articulate a uniquely Indian sensibility in "Sonnet -- Baumaree."
7. How does Constance Naden's "Scientific Wooing" depict a scientist's initial commitment to studies, his subsequent desire for intimacy with his beloved, and his strategy to court her with terms of endearment drawn from chemistry, physics, botany, and mathematics? Corroborate your answer with appropriate textual illustrations.
8. Discuss the contribution of Michael Field (Katherine Bradley and Edith Cooper) to Sappho studies with regard to their reinterpretation of the figure of Sappho in *Long Ago*.
9. Is it possible to carry out a reading of Mary Coleridge's "The Witch" from a biographical perspective? Give reasons for your answer.
10. "He [Ken] is a different sort of body. . . ." In the light of this statement, critically examine Charlotte Mew's exploration of insanity in "Ken."

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