

MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2019
First Year First Semester
ENGLISH
Nineteenth Century Women Novelists

Time: Two hours

Full marks: 30

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

- 1) Critically discuss the socio-economic and literary factors which account for the phenomenal rise of women novelists in the nineteenth century.
- 2) Jane Austen's *Persuasion* subverts traditional values based on landed inheritance and social rank. Do you agree with this view? Justify your argument with suitable examples from the text.
- 3) Examine Ann Bronte's representation of love, marriage and motherhood in *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*. Do you think the novel is ultimately a 'love story'?
- 4) Discuss how Gaskell incorporates her views about the contemporary discourse of science into *Wives and Daughters*.
- 5) Write an essay on Sarah Grand's handling of the theme of marital breakdown in *The Beth Book*.
- 6) Do you think Edna is able to walk out of domesticity into an alternative in Kate Chopin's *The Awakening*? Discuss with close reference to the text.