

Master of Arts Examination 2018
First Year Second Semester
English
AUTHORS AND READERS

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer *any three* questions. All questions carry equal marks

1. To what extent does Charlotte Smith's gender and class inflect the construction of her authorial self in *Elegiac Sonnets*?
2. Examine how the genesis of the novel *Evelina* is paradigmatic of female authorship in the eighteenth century.
3. Discuss the principles of serialization as practiced by Charles Dickens in *Pickwick Papers*.
4. Although the speculation that *Wuthering Heights*' authorship should legitimately belong to Branwell Bronte has been put to rest by critics such as Irene Cooper Willis among others, the scholarship available on 'the making of *Wuthering Heights*' shows that in this particular case the issue of the 'singularity' of authorship deserves to be questioned. Discuss.
5. In her essay 'Silly Novels by Lady Novelists', George Eliot takes contemporary women novelists to task producing 'mind and millinery novels'. Do you think her criticism justified? Give reasons for your answer.
6. Examine the theme of failed authorship in *Middlemarch*.
7. How does the self-created social image(s) of an author inform the reading of his or her works? Answer with special reference to Emily Dickinson and her poems.
8. Critically examine the way the Bronte family has been represented in Elizabeth Gaskell's *The Life of Charlotte Bronte*.