

MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2018

First Year First Semester

ENGLISH

Special Author: T.S. Eliot

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

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

1. 'The very idea of the modern includes a sense of "return".' How far do you think this to be true? Discuss with special reference to T.S. Eliot.
2. Eliot wrote: 'We need to recover the sense of religious fear so that it may be overcome by religious hope.' Comment on this statement with reference to 'Gerontion'.
3. (a) Show how 'The Cooking Egg' ridicules a notion of heaven which will compensate for the lost ideals of life.

Or

(b) In 'The Hippopotamus', the absurdity of the gross hippopotamus is used for satirizing the spiritual apathy and materialism of the Church. Comment with appropriate illustrations from the text.

4. How does Eliot play upon the themes of 'life-in-death' and 'death-in-life' in the *Waste Land*?
5. How do the two epigraphs ('Mistah Kurtz---he dead' and 'A penny for the Old Guy') in 'The Hollow Men' contribute to our understanding of the poem.
6. Discuss the significance of the women figures in 'Ash Wednesday' in furthering the poet's spiritual journey. How far do you think they are qualitatively different from the women of the *Waste Land*?
7. In the 'Four Quartets', Eliot experiments with 'musical elaboration' in which words of different sounds, sizes, ranks and associations are united and the organized poem becomes an effective way of imposing order upon the chaos of life. Elaborate with reference to either 'Burnt Norton' or 'East Coker'.
8. The chorus in *Murder in the Cathedral* embodies the dramatic movement from passivity to involvement. Discuss.
9. Discuss how Eliot problematizes the comic potential of *The Cocktail Party* by bringing it close to being a tragedy.