

Master of Arts Examination 2018 (Old)
English
First Year Second Semester
English Literature 1760-1830

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

1. Answer any **three** questions choosing at least **one** from each group:

Group A

- 1) What are the similarities and differences between Cowper and Crabbe as pre-Romantic poets? Answer with reference to the poems you have read in your syllabus.
- 2) Attempt an explanation of the complex system of 'the political economy of reading' in William St. Clair's essay bearing the same title. How does it seek to reveal the ways reading helped to shape the 'mentality' of the Romantic period?
- 3) Comment on how William Jones incorporates and mediates the Hindu religion through an English poetic form in his 'Hymns' to Hindu deities composed between the years 1784-89.
- 4) Analyse Coleridge's use of the structure of the gothic in 'Christabel' and comment on why he might have used this form in this poem.
- 5) Analyse Wordsworth's justification of his poetic vocation as 'an audacious attempt to make the epic personal' in Book 1 of *The Prelude*.
- 6) How does Byron blend narration and digression to produce a type of descriptive-meditative poetry in *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*? Support your answer with adequate textual examples.

Group B

- 7) Show how Lamb subverts the conventional forms of gender-differentiation in his Elia essays and other literary works.
- 8) Discuss the twin themes of erotic obsession and the corrupting influence of power in Matthew Lewis's *The Monk*.
- 9) 'Walter Scott's image of the Highlands has, in cultural terms, virtually taken over from and supplanted "the real thing"'. Discuss with an emphasis on how *Waverley* begins this process of cultural politics.
- 10) Do you agree that Fanny's 'history of displacement' is a political statement and a foil to the landed gentry in *Mansfield Park*? Give reasons for your answer.