

MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2018
First Year, First Semester
ENGLISH
GENERIC TRANSFORMATIONS

Time: 2 hours

Full Marks : 30

Answer any three questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Fielding claims that *Joseph Andrews* is a "comic epic-poem in prose." Discuss the novel in light of this definition with particular reference to Fielding's comments on the Ridiculous.
2. Comment on the use of the grotesque as a generic category in *The Life of Gargantua and of Pantagruel*.
3. '(W)hen a man is telling a story in the strange way I do mine, he is obliged continually to be going backwards and forwards...and now you see, I am lost myself!' Critically comment on the narrative structure of *Tristram Shandy* in light of this statement.
4. Can Balzac's *Pere Goriot* be read as an attempt to masculinize the 19th century novel?
5. Henry James says of *Our Mutual Friend* that "[i]t is hardly too much to say that every character here put before us is a mere bundle of eccentricities, animated by no principle of nature whatever." Discuss this comment with specific references to any two characters in the text.
6. "If you could give me some story, now, where the dark woman triumphs, it would restore the balance." says Maggie in *The Mill on the Floss*. Discuss how George Eliot challenges the stereotype of the female heroine in this novel.
7. 'Though *Ulysses* is technically a novel, it transcends genre'. Discuss.
8. Can *Voices from Chernobyl* be considered a novel? Justify your answer.