

BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2018 (Old)
First Year First Semester
ENGLISH (HONOURS)
English Literature 1830 - 1900

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer any *three* questions (taking at least *one* from *each* group). All questions carry equal marks.

Group A

1. Is Heathcliff a Marxist hero? Argue your case with suitable examples from Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*.
2. To what extent is Dickens successful in telling the story of an industrial society in *Hard Times*?
3. In what ways does Stevenson's *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* engage with the themes of (a) duality and (b) violence?
4. 'Chance and coincidence are responsible to a large extent for the undoing of Tess.' Elaborate.
5. 'Ibsen's *A Doll House* is about a woman who questions her duty to her husband and seeks to escape the stifling confines of her marriage.' Discuss.
6. Why, in your view, does Wilde call *The Importance of Being Earnest* 'a trivial comedy for serious people'? Give reasons for your answer.
7. 'Not the fruit of experience, but the experience itself, is the end.' How does Pater reach this conclusion? Are you convinced by his reasoning? Give reasons.

Group B

8. 'While Tennyson's Ulysses craves "life piled on life" and embarks on more adventures, his Tithonus gives up on life and yearns for oblivion in the grave.' Elucidate.
9. How does 'My Last Duchess' exemplify both the positive and the negative sides of the European Renaissance as projected by Browning?
10. How does Elizabeth Barrett Browning rewrite the Petrarchan conventions of sonnet writing? Explain with examples from the sonnets you have read.
11. Are the speakers in Arnold's 'Dover Beach' and 'The Scholar-Gipsy' narcissistic and self-indulgent, as regards their representations of the Victorian crisis of faith? Substantiate your answer with textual illustrations.
12. How does Rossetti use the trope of the fallen woman in 'An Apple Gathering' and 'A Triad'?
13. Would you describe Dickinson's representation of death in her poetry as predictable or ingenious? Answer with close reference to any *two* poems prescribed in your syllabus.