

BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2018 (Old)

Third Year Fifth Semester

ENGLISH (Honours)

Popular and Genre Fiction in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

Time: Two hours

Full marks: 30

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

1. Jules de Goncourt wrote: 'After reading Edgar Allan Poe. Something the critics have not noticed: a new literary world pointing to the literature of the 20th Century. Scientific miracles, fables on the pattern A+ B, a clear-sighted, sickly literature. No more poetry but analytic fantasy. Something monomaniacal. Things playing a more important part than people; love giving away to deductions and other forms of ideas, style, subject and interest.' Discuss with reference to the Poe stories you have read.
2. Comment on the use of opium as a plot device by Collins in *The Moonstone*.
3. Can Lady Audley's attempt to take control of her own life be read as a feminist act?
4. What is the effect of the structure of the novel *Dracula*? Why do you think Stoker chose to construct it as a series of journal entries and letters from multiple points of view?
5. '...we must remember what ruthless and utter destruction our own species has wrought, not only upon animals, such as the vanished bison and the dodo, but upon its inferior races. The Tasmanians, in spite of their human likeness, were entirely swept out of existence in a war of extermination waged by European immigrants in the space of fifty years? Are we such apostles of mercy as to complain if the Martians warred in the same spirit?' What does this extract from *The War of the Worlds* tell us about Wells's politics?
6. How does Kim deal with the anguish of abandoning his childhood in *Kim*? What is the Teshoo Lama's role in easing the process?
7. Is David Balfour too grown-up for his age in *Kidnapped*? Give reasons for your answer.