

**BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2018**  
**Third Year, Sixth Semester**  
**English (Honours)**  
**Criticism**

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. a) "Plato's concession that poetry is divinely inspired in *Ion* thinly conceals his charge that poets are ignorant of what they write about". Do you agree? Discuss.
2. Briefly summarize Aristotle's arguments for the primacy of plot in tragedy.
3. Explain the medieval concept of interpreting a text at multiple levels and relate it to the idea of interpreting a text symbolically.
4. Discuss in detail Sidney's approach towards Plato in *Apology for Poetry*.
5. How does Ben Jonson as a critic deal with the issue of originality and spontaneity in poetry?
6. "Neoclassical criticism in England sought a distinct national identity in the backdrop of severe political turmoil". Discuss.

**Group B**

7. What were the principal arguments about poetry and poets as upheld by Wordsworth in *Preface to Lyrical Ballads*? Discuss.
8. Briefly discuss Coleridge's theory of imagination. Do you think it is sufficient to understand the complex process of producing poetry? Give reasons.
9. "Poetry is not a turning loose of emotion but an escape from it". Discuss this statement in the light of Eliot's 'Tradition and Individual Talent'.
10. How does Freud explain Hamlet's procrastination? Why according to Freud, had the readers and critics failed to identify this explanation until he wrote on it?
11. "The arbitrary nature of the sign is really what protects language from any attempt to modify it" Locate and annotate this remark.
12. "The academic discipline of disability studies provides the lens of "body and difference" to read various cultural texts". Do you agree? Discuss.
13. Analyse, following Foucault, how the 'power-knowledge' nexus governs the careful selection, ordering and exclusion of discourses within any historical era.