

## BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2017

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. What effect does the use of multiple narrators in *Wuthering Heights* have on the readers' experience of the story? Illustrate your answer with examples from the text.
2. Discuss the significance of the circus in *Hard Times*. What do you think it symbolises? Support your answer with reference to the text.
3. Can we read Stevenson's *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* as a critique of the figure of the male Victorian professional? Give reasons for your answer.
4. '*Tess of the d'Urbervilles* traces the process of Tess's anger slowly coming to the boil.' Discuss the nature and significance of this process, supporting your answer with reference to the text.
5. Examine the transformation of Nora Helmer in Ibsen's *A Doll's House* in the light of the transformations of some of the other characters in the play.
6. 'The class system is a frequent target in Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, particularly in terms of upper-class attitudes to those outside their class.' Elucidate.
7. Enumerate the scientific and epistemological arguments that Pater presents in the 'Conclusion' to *The Renaissance*. How does he formulate his aesthetic theory as a response to these arguments?

## Group B

8. How do speakers and situations from the past acquire contemporary relevance in Tennyson's 'Ulysses' and 'Tithonus'? Substantiate your answer with appropriate textual illustrations.
9. Discuss the nature of the marriage bargain described in Browning's 'My Last Duchess'. What role does the Duchess play in this bargain?
10. In what ways does Barrett Browning thematize love in *Sonnet from the Portuguese*? Discuss with reference to any *three* sonnets you have read.
11. 'Nothing in Arnold's verse is more interesting than its inscription of nature.' Bring out the relevance of this statement in the light of 'The Scholar Gypsy' and 'Dover Beach'.
12. 'Complex social and moral questions are hidden under the surface simplicity of Rossetti's poetry.' How far does this remark hold good for 'A Triad', 'An Apple Gathering', and 'In an Artist's Studio'?
13. Do Dickinson's death poems enlarge our understanding of it? Discuss with reference to the poems you have read.