

MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2017
First Year, First Semester
ENGLISH
Medieval and Renaissance Literature

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer any two questions from Part A and one from Part B.

GROUP A (11x2=22)

1. Analyse the varied nature of humour in Middle English literature with reference to the texts of Chaucer, Langland and the Wakefield Master that you have studied.
2. How does the Knight in the *Wife of Bath's Tale* compare as a husband with Alison's five spouses?
3. Critically comment on the characterization of Mutabilitie and Dame Nature in the *Mutabilitie* cantos.
4. How does Donne view the problem of human salvation in his religious lyrics? Discuss with reference to the poems you have studied.
5. 'Doubt wisely; in strange way / To stand inquiring right, is not to stray; / To sleepe, or runne wrong, is...' In the context of these lines, comment on how Donne categorizes the desirable religious life in *Satire III*.
6. Examine Jonson's neoclassicism in his lyrics and odes.
7. Examine how early modern travel writing reveals complex interactions between knowledge, pleasure and national identity.

GROUP B

Answer with reference to the context: (8x1=8)

8. Up sterte the Pardoner, and that anon;
 "Now, dame," quod he, "by God and by Seint John
 Ye been a noble prechour in this cas.
 I was about to wed a wyf. Alas,
 What sholde I bye it on my flesh so dere?
 Yot hadde I levere wedde no wyf to-yere!"

9. "Yes, sirs, was't
 Let burn this bawd and bind her fast.
 A false scold hangs at the last;
 So shall thou.
 Will ye see how they swaddle
 His four feet in the middle?
 Saw I never in a cradle
 A horned lad ere now."

10. All those fair forests about Arlo hid,
 And all that Mountaine, which doth over-looke
 The richest champion that may else be rid,
 And that fair *Shure*, in which are thousand
 Salmons bred.

11. For if I thought my judgement were
 of years,
 I should commit thee surely with thy peers,
 And tell how far thou didst our Lyly outshine,
 Or sporting Kyd, or Marlowe's mighty line.

12. Thousands we see which travaille
 not
 To wars; But stay swords, armes, and shott
 To make at home; And shall not I do then
 More glorious service, staying to make men?

13. O thinke me worth thine anger,
 punish mee,
 Burne off my rusts, and my deformity,
 Restore thine image, so much, by thy grace
 That thou mayst know mee, and I'll turn my
 face.