

BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2023

(1st Year, 1st Semester)

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

Course – CBCS/CL/UG/Core/1.2

(LITERATURES OF THE ANCIENT WORLD II)

Full Marks: 30

Time: Two Hours

1a. How does the figure of the 'epic hero' emerge in the first four books of the *Odyssey*? Does divine intervention have an important role to play in this? Answer with suitable textual references.

Or,

1b. Pindar and Horace were both instrumental in evolving the tradition of the ode in Europe in spite of the major chronological, sociological and political spaces that separated them. Discuss with critical references to the odes you have studied.

2a. What are the functions of women characters in a comedy like *The Rope*? Do these functions hint towards the creation of stereotypes? Answer with the help of suitable textual references.

Or,

2 (b) Discuss how the context of the episodes relate to the songs that follow them in Greek tragedy. Answer with reference to *Antigone*.

3a. Critically comment on the relevance of including the *Egyptian Book of the Dead* in this course. Comment on the salient features that may have prompted this inclusion with reference to one more text from this course that displays comparable features. Justify your arguments with relevant references to both the texts.

Or,

3b. Attempt a comparative study of the portrayal of divinity as expressed in the excerpts you have studied from *The Golden Ass* as well as the three flood texts included in your syllabus. Substantiate your arguments with relevant textual references.