

**JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY**  
MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2023  
First Year First Semester  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  
**GEORGE ELIOT**

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

1. Answer *any one* of the following questions. 15
  - a. Trace George Eliot's religious views as they evolve from evangelical Christianity to elements of a future religion.
  - b. Do you agree that George Eliot expresses doubts about the value of contemporary educational practices? Trace her reasoning with reference to any *two* of her novels.
  - c. How far would it be correct to say that religion and science are the two major recurring thematic concerns in George Eliot's fiction? Answer with reference to any *two* novels you have studied.
  - d. Do you agree that 'George Eliot's beautiful young women must learn to acquire beauty of soul if they are to fulfill their human potential and become something other than decorative objects or tragic failures'? Answer with reference to any *two* of her female protagonists.
  
2. Answer *any one* of the following questions. 15
  - a. Account for the various critical implications of water symbolism in *The Mill on the Floss* and *Romola*.
  - b. Comment on the symbolic treatment of gold in *Silas Marner*.
  - c. Discuss how *Felix Holt, the Radical* presents an urgent plea for the present to break free from the control of the past in the definition and solution of society's problems.
  - d. *Middlemarch* breaks new ground in the history of the English novel through its exploration of the subconscious. Discuss.
  - e. George Eliot's portrayal of Dinah Morris in *Adam Bede* is of undeniable theological interest. Discuss the redemptive qualities she embodies.
  - f. 'Scattered hints in *Middlemarch* of a concern over prejudice against Jews rise to a central motif in *Daniel Deronda*, which moves from a study of English provincial life to that of an alternative culture.' Elucidate.