

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY
FOUR-YEAR BACHELOR'S DEGREE EXAMINATION, 2024
FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
THE VICTORIAN PERIOD (MINOR)

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

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CO1. Identify the cardinal features of the selected novels. (Answer any one of the following questions: 1 x 10 = 10)

1. A) Is Charles Dickens's delineation of Fagin in *Oliver Twist* antisemitic? Argue your case with appropriate examples from the novel.
1. B) Critically evaluate the significance of the supernatural in Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*.
1. C) "Thomas Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge* is a great tragedy; however, it goes beyond being solely the tragedy of Michael Henchard." Elaborate.
1. D) In what ways does Bram Stoker deal with the late-Victorian ideal of the New Woman in *Dracula*? Substantiate your answer with suitable textual illustrations.

CO2. Acquire knowledge of the conventional as well as innovative interpretations of the selected poems. (Answer any one of the following questions: 1 x 10 = 10)

2. A) Write an essay on Robert Browning's "My Last Duchess" and Alfred, Lord Tennyson's "Ulysses" as specimens of the dramatic monologue.
2. B) "Elizabeth Barrett Browning's exploration of the ways of love in Sonnet XLIII from *Sonnets from the Portuguese* is also an exploration of the ways of reclaiming the woman's voice in the sonnet tradition." Elucidate.
2. C) Do you think Matthew Arnold's rewriting of a widely known episode from *Shahnameh* in *Sohrab and Rustum: An Episode* resonated with his contemporary readers? If yes, then how? Give examples in support of your answer.
2. D) How does Christina Rossetti play with the construct of the "angel in the house" and engage with the potential of sisterhood in "Goblin Market"? Answer on the basis of your reading of the poem.

CO3. Carry out detailed scholarly analyses of the selected non-fictional texts. (Answer any one of the following questions: 1 x 5 = 5)

3. A) Write a short note on Thomas Carlyle's views on Dante and William Shakespeare in "The Hero as Poet."
3. B) Offer a succinct assessment of John Ruskin as an art critic.
3. C) Discuss, in brief, the features of the prose style of Walter Pater with reference to his non-fictional writings.

CO4. Examine at length the critical contexts of the selected play. (Answer any one of the following questions: 1 x 5 = 5)

4. A) "Vital to Oscar Wilde's comic vision in *The Importance of Being Earnest* is his biting wit." Provide three instances of Wilde's wit from the play to bring out the validity of this statement.
4. B) Briefly comment on how Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* can be classified as a queer play.
4. C) Is it possible to analyse Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* from the perspective of food studies? Elaborate.