

Jadavpur University

FOUR-YEAR BACHELOR DEGREE EXAMINATION, 2024

First Year, Second Semester

Department of English

European Classical and Christian Background (SEC)

Paper Code:

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer *any four* questions taking one from each CO

CO1: Be acquainted with the early history of Graeco-Roman and Judaeo-Christian traditions.

1x10=10 marks

1. What does the Mask of Agamemnon tell us about the culture to which it belongs? How was this culture different from the one that succeeded it?
2. Does Sappho represent a counter voice in Greek lyric poetry? Illustrate your answer with examples.
3. Analyse the structure of *either* the Old Testament or the New Testament.
4. Discuss the salient features of the Four Gospels and examine variations between them if any.

CO2: Learn about the form, structure, and themes of the major literary genres of Classical European literature.

1x10=10 marks

5. Who do you think is the real hero of the *Iliad* – Achilles or Hector? Justify your position.
6. “The Dido episode in the *Aeneid* might appear to be a mere digression at first glance, but it is actually integral to the plot of the poem because it highlights certain essential qualities of the epic hero.” Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
7. Examine how the parabasis in *Frogs* is a testimony to the political nature of Old Comedy.
8. Comment on the nature of Agamemnon’s guilt and examine how its assessment becomes of utmost importance in an understanding of Aeschylus’s *Agamemnon*.
9. Would you agree that Ovid’s *Metamorphoses* lacks unity and structure? Discuss with close reference to the text.
10. What are the arguments presented by Lucretius against the fear of death? Discuss with close reference to the text of *De Rerum Natura*.

CO3: Acquire a comprehensive knowledge of the seminal literary works of the Classical period and their subsequent influence.

1x5=5 marks

11. Write a short note on *any one*:
 - a. Solon’s economic reforms

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- b. Shield of Achilles
- c. Dido and Aeneas as early colonizers
- d. Eleusinian Mysteries
- e. First choral ode of *Agamemnon*
- f. Arachne
- g. Orpheus and Eurydice
- h. Qumran
- i. Lucretius's banquet analogy

CO4: Be acquainted with the early Scholastics, ecclesiastical history, and Biblical exegesis. **1x5=5 marks**

12. Write a short note on *any one*:
- a. Cain and Abel
 - b. God's covenant with Noah
 - c. The circumstances of Moses's birth and infancy
 - d. Passover
 - e. Apocryphal Books
 - f. The Catholic Epistles
 - g. The Rich Man and Lazarus
 - h. The Parable of the Sower