

M. A. First Year Second Semester Examination 2024

English

Authors and Readers

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer any three questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. With reference to the elegiac sonnets and its prefaces, comment on Charlotte Smith's construction of her authorial persona.
2. Critically analyse Elizabeth Gaskell's representation of the other Bronte siblings in *The Life of Charlotte Bronte*.
3. Comment on Emily Dickinson's use of punctuations in her poetry.
4. What do you understand about copyright laws? How did that impact the industrial idea of authorship in the 18th century? Answer with reference to Kant and others taught in class.
5. How would a contemporary reader probably look at *Wuthering Heights* today? Explain with the help of one of the newer theoretical approaches discussed in class.
6. Write an essay on the rise of multiple and distinct readerships of fiction in the second half of nineteenth-century-England.
7. "The meaning of a text not merely resides in the text but is also produced by the web of texts invoked by the reader in the act of reading." Write an essay discussing the "web of texts" you wish to invoke in your reading of Mary Robinson's "London's Summer Morning."
8. In *The Mill on the Floss*, the predominant theme is "the quest for unity – social, familial, and personal – that fusion of imagination and will which leads to sympathetic action". Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.