

**JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2024
FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
NINETEENTH-CENTURY WOMEN NOVELISTS**

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer any three questions. All questions carry equal marks.

- 1) “Although Anne Elliot and Frederick Wentworth are Jane Austen’s great creations, it is the secondary characters, both good and bad, in *Persuasion* who steal the limelight.” Do you agree with this view? Answer with reference to the secondary characters of the novel.
- 2) What roles do Arthur Huntingdon’s reception of Helen Graham’s paintings and Gilbert Markham’s reception of the same play in influencing Helen’s self-actualisation as an artist? Substantiate your answer with suitable examples from Anne Brontë’s *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*.
- 3) “Lady Audley in Mary Elizabeth Braddon’s *Lady Audley’s Secret* does not have one but several secrets, most—but not all—of which are revealed in the course of the novel.” Elaborate.
- 4) Critically analyse Sarah Grand’s depiction of the childhood, marriage, and vocation of her New Woman heroine in *The Beth Book*.
5. Attempt an essay on any one of the following topics:
 - i) Representation of Ireland in Maria Edgeworth’s *Castle Rackrent*
 - ii) Oriental and colonial dimensions of Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*
 - iii) Emily Brontë’s *Wuthering Heights* and its queer contexts
 - iv) Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* as an anti-slavery novel
 - v) Influence of scientific thought on Elizabeth Gaskell’s *Wives and Daughters*
 - vi) Film adaptations of Louisa May Alcott’s *Little Women*
 - vii) Depiction of Jews in George Eliot’s *Daniel Deronda*
 - viii) Flora Annie Steel’s *On the Face of the Waters* and the Indian Rebellion of 1857