

**B.A. (Honours) Examination 2019**

**Semester VI**

**English**

**Course- H 16 (Optional)**

**(Special Author: Thomas Hardy)**

**(For Regular and Back Candidates)**

**Time: Three hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value

**Question No.1 is compulsory**; choose **any three** from the rest

1. a) Critically comment on the Victorian critics' evaluation of Hardy as a thoroughly pessimistic writer. Provide suitable instances from his literary works to prove your point.

**Or**

b) Evaluate Hardy's critique of the social and moral conditions of the Victorian period with reference to his literary works.

2. Critically comment on the celebration of the values of the rural community in *Far from the Madding Crowd*.

3. Would you prefer the earlier title *Too Late, Beloved!* to *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* as relevant to Hardy's novel? Explain.

4. Critically evaluate the presentation of personal and public elements in Hardy's poetry.

5. a) What does Hardy mean by 'generous imaginativeness'? Discuss with reference to 'The Profitable Reading of Fiction'.

**Or**

b) Comment critically on Hardy's passionate criticism of the urban stereotype of the rural 'Hodge' in 'The Dorsetshire Labourer'.

6. Comment critically on Hardy's attitude towards crime and criminals as reflected in his short stories prescribed in your syllabus.

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