

B.A. (Honours) Examination, 2015
Semester – II
English
Paper : H-4 (Core)
(Selections from Old English & Middle English Literatures)

(Regular & Back Candidates)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value.

Answer question no. 1 and **any three** other questions.

1. (a) Consider 'journey' as a recurring trope in Old English poetry.

or

- (b) Write short notes on **any two** of the following:

The Seafarer; Wulf and Eadwacer; Alfred; Genesis B; Mak the shepherd; Wulfstan; The Book of the Duchess.

2. Beowulf engages with a wider Teutonic socio-cultural situation rather than a merely Anglo-Saxon one. Discuss

3. (a) If you were to be among Chancer's pilgrims, whom would you choose as your favourite travel companion? Justify your choice, with reference to your reading of the *General Prologue* to *The Canterbury Tales*.

or

- (b) Consider the 'gaps' between Chancer the pilgrim, who narrates the journey, and Chancer the poet, who structures the narrative. Could you account for these 'gaps'?

4. (a) To what extent does Langland's use of the 'fair field full of folk' represent the cross-section of the contemporary society? Discuss.

or

- (b) How does *Gawain and the Green Knight* blend together chivalric codes with Christian principles? Discuss.

5. How does the allegorical structure of *Everyman* negotiate between medieval moralising and dramatic entertainment? Analyse.
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