

B.A. (Honours) Examination 2016

Semester – V

English

Course: H-9 (Core)

(Victorian Literature)

(For Regular and Back Candidates)

Time: Three Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value

Answer any four (Question no. 1 is compulsory)

1. a) How did the Victorian novel reflect contemporary concerns? Elaborate.
Or
b) Examine how Victorian poetry negotiates with the themes of gender and sexuality.
 2. a) The narrative of *Wuthering Heights* is replete with contrasts and comparisons. Discuss.
Or
b) *Great Expectations* represents the aspirations of nineteenth century English society. Discuss.
Or
c) How does the subtitle of *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* affect your reading of the novel?
Or
d) What is the significance of the dream motif in *Alice in Wonderland*?
 3. a) Comment on Tennyson's representations of 'age and mortality' in the poems in your syllabus.
Or
b) How does Robert Browning use the dramatic monologue to its full potential? Discuss.
 4. a) Literature is a "criticism of life." How far does Arnold's poetry conform to this statement of his?
Or
b) Hopkins anticipates modern poetry by virtue of the technical ingenuity found in his verse.
 5. a) What does Arnold mean by the pursuit of perfection in "Sweetness and Light"?
Or
b) Comment on the major issues in Carlyle's "The Hero as Poet".
 6. *The Importance of Being Earnest* illustrates the conflict between personal desire and social responsibility. Discuss.
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