

**M.A. Examination, 2018**  
**Semester-I**  
**English**  
**Course- M 1.1 (Core) - The Renaissance (Regular)**  
**Core-I (Core) – Renaissance (Back)**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

*Questions are of equal value*

Answer question no. **1** and **any three** from the rest

1. Write a note on **any one** of the following:
    - a) Burckhardt's work on the Renaissance in Italy and its critique
    - b) Reformation and the Northern Renaissance
    - c) Humanist studies and its impact
  
  2. a) The 'newness' in Metaphysical poetry can be ascribed to its innovative strategies of expression. Would you agree? Justify.  
or  
b) Examine **either** Biblical allusions in Herbert's poetry **or** Counter-Reformation elements in Crashaw's divine verse.
  
  3. a) What is the function of the Fool in *King Lear*? Substantiate.  
or  
b) Comment on the ending of *King Lear* with reference to the critical debate surrounding it.
  
  4. How does Webster evoke empathy for the Duchess of Malfi, a young widow who secretly marries her steward against the will of her brothers? Give instances from the play.
  
  5. Consider **either** *The Winter's Tale* **or** *The Tempest* as a play about power. Discuss.
  
  6. The paradox of the figure of the malcontent in Renaissance drama is that he is both a self-serving opportunist and a subversive, radical presence who critiques systems of oppression. Would you agree? Comment critically with reference to at least two instances from the plays you have read.
  
  7. *Dr. Faustus* is the tragedy of an overreacher. Discuss.
  
  8. Comment on Milton's depiction of the Garden of Eden in *Paradise Lost*, Book IV.
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