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Reg. No. : .....

Name : .....

First Semester M.A. Degree Examination, May 2023

English Language and Literature

Core Course : Paper IV

EL 214 : ROMANTICS AND VICTORIANS

(2017 – 2021 Admission)

Time : 3 Hours Max. Marks : 75

I. Write short answers on any **five** of the following in about **50** words.

1. The significance of light and dark in Mathew Arnold's "Dover Beach".
2. Theme of duty and respectability in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.
3. Freedom and Confinement in the poem "The Prisoner of Chillon'.
4. Comment on tyranny and authority in Shelley's *The Cenci*.
5. Culture as *a* dynamic aim in "Sweetness and Light".
6. How does Diaries Dickens depict good and evil in *David Copperfield* by using opposing pairs of characters?
7. Marriage as a transaction in *The Mayor of Casterbridge*.
8. What, according to Wordsworth, is the connection between prose and poetry?

(5 × 2 = 10 Marks)

P.T.O.

II. Comment critically on any **two** of the following choosing one from each group.

SECTION – A

9. And we are here as on a darkling plain

Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight,

Where ignorant armies clash by night.

10. Yellow, and black, and pale, and hectic red,

Pestilence-stricken multitudes: O thou,

Who chariotest to their dark wintry bed

SECTION B

11. "I do not approve of anything that tampers with natural ignorance. Ignorance is like a delicate exotic fruit; touch it and the bloom is gone. The whole theory of modern education is radically unsound. Fortunately in England, at any rate, education produces no effect whatsoever. If it did, it would prove a serious danger to the upper classes, and probably lead to acts of violence in Grosvenor Square"

12. "The pursuit of perfection, then, is the pursuit of sweetness and light. He who works for sweetness works in the end for light also; he who works for light works in the end for sweetness also. But he who works for sweetness and light united, works to make reason and the will of God prevail".

(2 × 5 = 10 Marks)

III. Write short notes on any **two** of the following in about **150** words.

13. The nature of Romanticism.

14. The significance of the opening two stanzas in "The Blessed Damozel".

15. The role of the father figure in *David Copperfield*.

16. Hugh Walker's perception of the New Age.

(2 × 5 = 10 Marks)

IV. Write essays on any **three** of the following in about **500** words choosing one from each section.

SECTION A

17. Explain the virtues of perseverance and optimism in Tennyson's "The Lotus-Eaters."

18. What makes the narrator so passionate about spotted and mottled objects in Hopkins' "Pith Beauty"?

19. How does Oscar Wilde create and comment on the social class differences in England in his play, *The Importance of Being Earnest*?

(1 × 15 = 15 Marks)

SECTION – B

20. Evaluate Mathew Arnold's "Sweetness and Light" as a demonstration of a good understanding of culture.

21. The British aristocratic social system is based on the concept of primogeniture. How does Austen employs this class system in *Mansfield Park*?

22. Comment on the ending of *The Mill on the Floss*. Does Maggie's death enrich or detract from the novel's themes?

(1 × 15 = 15 Marks)

SECTION C

23. Attempt an essay on the different phases of Romanticism.

24. Evaluate Hugh Walker's assessment of the Victorian era from a contemporary theoretical viewpoint.

25. Examine how M.H. Abrams' taxonomy of literary theories simplifies the task of a literary critic.

(1 × 15 = 15 Marks)