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First Year B.A. Degree Examination, February 2022

English Language And Literature

Part III : Paper I – POETRY

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 100

I. Annotate any five of the following:

1. I no longer love her, that's certain, but maybe I love her.
   Love is so short, forgetting is so long.
   Because through nights like this one I held her in my arms
   My soul is not satisfied that it has lost her.
   Though this be the last pain that she makes me suffer
   and these the last verses that I write for her.

2. There is so much silence between the words,
   you say. You say, The sensed absence
   of God and the sensed presence
   amount to much the same thing,
   only in reverse.
   You say, I have too much white clothing.

P.T.O.

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You start to hum.
Several hundred years ago
this could have been mysticism
or heresy. It isn't now.
Outside there are sirens.
Someone's been run over.
The century grinds on.

3. Again brutish necessity wipes its hands

Upon the napkin of a dirty cause, again

A waste of our compassion, as with Spain,

The gorilla wrestles with the superman.

I who am poisoned with the blood of both,

Where shall I turn, divided to the vein?

I who have cursed

The drunken officer of British rule, how choose

Between this Africa and the English tongue I love?

Betray them both, or give back what they give?

How can I face such slaughter and be cool?

How can I turn from Africa and live?

4. Five years have past; five summers, with the length

Of five long winters! and again I hear

These waters, rolling from their mountain-springs

With a soft inland murmur. —Once again

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Do I behold these steep and lofty cliffs,

That on a wild secluded scene impress

Thoughts of more deep seclusion; and connect

The landscape with the quiet of the sky.

5. The unwanted wait here, and there for aeroplanes

clutching at heavy briefcases that hold

the papers to be read at seminars,

passports, visas and photographs of laughing

children. The unwanted carry heavy bags

and overcoats but the heaviest luggage

they tote is pain. If home is a concept

they shall not know it...

6. Today I lose and find you

Whom yet my blood would keep —

Would weave and sing around you

the spells and songs of sleep.

None but I shall know you

as none but I have known:

yet there's a death and a maiden

who wait for you alone;

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7. See how efficient it still is,

how it keeps itself in shape—

our century's hatred.

How easily it vaults the tallest obstacles.

How rapidly it pounces, tracks us down.

It's not like other feelings.

At once both older and younger.

It gives birth itself to the reasons

that give it life.

When it sleeps, it's never eternal rest.

And sleeplessness won't sap its strength; it feeds it.

8. Tonight I can write the saddest lines.

Write, for example, 'The night is starry and the stars are blue and shiver in the distance.'

The night wind revolves in the sky and sings.

Tonight I can write the saddest lines.

I loved her, and sometimes she loved me too.

Through nights like this one I held her in my arms.

I kissed her again and again under the endless sky.

She loved me, sometimes I loved her too.

How could one not have loved her great still eyes.

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9. Then at dawn we came down to a temperate valley,
Wet, below the snow line, smelling of vegetation;
With a running stream and a water-mill beating the darkness,
And three trees on the low sky,
And an old white horse galloped away in the meadow.
Then we came to a tavern with vine-leaves over the lintel,
Six hands at an open door dicing for pieces of silver,
And feet kicking the empty wine-skins.

10. But I was going to say "when Truth broke in
With all her matter-of-fact about the ice-storm
I should prefer to have some boy bend them
As he "went out and in to fetch the cows—
Some boy too far from town to learn baseball,
Whose only play was what he found himself,
Summer or winter, and could play alone.

(5 × 4 = 20 Marks)

II. Read the poem-extract carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Weep no more, woeful shepherds, weep no more,
For Lycidas, your sorrow, is not dead,
Sunk though he be beneath the wat'ry floor;
So sinks the day-star in the ocean bed,
And yet anon repairs his drooping head,

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And tricks his beams, and with new spangled ore

Flames in the forehead of the morning sky:

So Lycidas sunk low, but mounted high

Through the dear might of him that walk'd the waves;

Where, other groves and other streams along,

With nectar pure his oozy locks he laves,

And hears the unexpressive nuptial song,

In the blest kingdoms meek of joy and love.

There entertain him all the Saints above,

In solemn troops, and sweet societies,

That sing, and singing in their glory move,

And wipe the tears for ever from his eyes.

Now, Lycidas, the shepherds weep no more:

Henceforth thou art the Genius of the shore,

In thy large recompense, and shalt be good

To all that wander in that perilous flood.

(a) What does 'weep no more' suggest?

(b) Who is the 'Him that walked the waves'?

(c) What is meant by 'Solemn troops and sweet societies'?

(d) Who is the 'Genius of the shore?'

(e) What is the result of 'Thy large recompense'?

(5 × 2 = 10 Marks)

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III. Write notes on any **five** of the following, each in about **80** words:

1. Discuss the metaphors in Shakespeare's Sonnet 73.

2. Discuss John Donne's "The Sun Rising" as a 'dawn poem.'

3. In "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard". What does the speaker say about the paths of glory?

4. What delving into the human mind does Coleridge bring about in "Kubla Khan"?

5. Trace the development of the thought in "Ode to the West Wind".

6. In "Ode on a Grecian Urn", how does the speaker engage, interact, or react to each picture on the urn? Do his responses change? Why?

7. Assess Robert Browning's, "The Last Ride Together" as a dramatic monologue.

8. What does Yeats mean by 'circus animals' and what animals does he enumerate in the poem?

(5 × 4 = 20 Marks)

IV. Write essays on any **two** of the following:

1. Why is the poem 'Kubla Khan' called a fragment?

2. Elaborate on structure and setting of "Ode on a Grecian Urn".

3. In the final section, the speaker asks the West Wind to "Be through my lips to unawakened earth/The trumpet of a prophecy!" To what prophecy do you believe the speaker is referring?

4. Attempt a critical appreciation of Shakespeare's sonnet 73.

(2 × 20 = 40 Marks)

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V. Write notes on any **two** of the following, each in about **80** words:

1. Pathetic Fallacy
2. Pantheism
3. Imagination and Fancy
4. Poetry as 'criticism of life'

(2 × 5 = 10 Marks)

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