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3 SEM FYUGP MINENG3

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(December)

ENGLISH

(Minor)

Paper : MINENG3

(British Literature—18th Century)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

UNIT—I

1. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) "The Enlightenment represented a fundamental shift in intellectual, cultural and literary practices in 18th century Britain." Discuss how the literature of this period reflected Enlightenment ideals, with reference to major writers and their works.
- (b) The early English novel was a product of its time, reflecting middle-class values and concerns. Discuss the stated argument.
- (c) Coffee houses and literary clubs were central to the development of the public sphere in 18th century Britain. Explain the importance of coffee houses as spaces of intellectual and literary culture.

2. Answer any one of the following : 5

- (a) Write a short note on the defining features of Restoration comedy.
- (b) How did the periodicals contribute to the spread of Enlightenment ideas?
- (c) In what ways did 18th century writers use pastoral themes to critique urban society?
- (d) Briefly describe the social dynamics of coffee houses and their role in breaking down class barriers in intellectual discourse.

UNIT—II

3. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) "One's cruelty is one's power..." What kinds of power, and how much power, do the women characters have, in Congreve's *The Way of the World*?
- (b) Briefly bring out the implications of the phrase, 'the way of the world' in Congreve's play of that name.
- (c) "Fainall is a darker version of Mirabell though ultimately not successful." Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.

4. Answer any one of the following : 5

- (a) How does Congreve use the character of Lady Wishfort to critique societal norms and values?
- (b) Discuss the significance of wit and language in shaping character relationships in the play.

(c) Discuss the importance of proviso scene in *The Way of the World*.

(d) Comment on how the various schemes of the characters reflect the play's exploration of morality and ethics.

UNIT—III

5. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) In *Robinson Crusoe*, Defoe explores themes of survival, individualism and self-reliance. Discuss Crusoe's journey on the island as depicted in the novel.
- (b) Discuss the theme of isolation and solitude in *Robinson Crusoe*.
- (c) Write a note on the relationship between Crusoe and Friday in the novel, *Robinson Crusoe*.

6. Answer any one of the following : 5

- (a) Explain the importance of religion in *Robinson Crusoe*.
- (b) How is trade and commerce depicted in *Robinson Crusoe*? Discuss.
- (c) Comment on the significance of the novel's opening sea-voyage and Crusoe's critical disobedience to his father.
- (d) Enumerate on how the narrative structure of *Robinson Crusoe* deepens the reader's insight into Crusoe's experiences.

UNIT—IV

7. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) Write a critical appreciation of Gray's *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*.

Or

Examine the narrative technique of the poem, *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*.

- (b) Discuss Pope's *The Rape of the Lock* as a mock-epic.

Or

Examine the character of Belinda in *The Rape of the Lock*.

8. Answer any one of the following : 5

- (a) Comment on the significance of the rural setting in *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*.

- (b) Briefly explain how Gray addresses the theme of social class in the elegy.

- (c) State how Pope's use of the machinery of the sylphs in *The Rape of the Lock*.

- (d) Analyse the function of the lock as a symbol in the context of social values and gender dynamics.

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