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3 SEM FYUGP ENGC3A

2025

(Nov/Dec)

ENGLISH

(Core)

Paper : ENGC3A

(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) Analyse, with specific examples from the works of major authors, how Enlightenment ideals influenced the literary works of the 18th century British literature.

- (b) Discuss the impact of Neoclassicism on the 18th century British literature. How did authors like Alexander Pope, Jonathan Swift and Samuel Johnson explore the neoclassical tenets in their work?
- (c) Discuss the major features of Restoration Comedy with special reference to the works of the key playwrights of the period.
- (d) Examine the emergence of novel as a literary form in 18th century England. How did authors like Daniel Defoe and the 'four wheels of English novel' contribute to the development of the new form?
2. Write a short note on any *one* of the following :
- (a) Diverse subgenres of novel in the 18th century
- (b) Coffee houses and literary clubs as centres of intellectual exchange in 17th and 18th century England
- (c) Impact of the Periodical Press on the 18th century English literature and culture
- (d) Attitude towards the country and the city in eighteenth century literature

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UNIT—II

3. Answer any *one* of the following :

10

- (a) Examine the portrayal of gender roles and relationships in *The Way of the World* and comment on how the play depicts the social expectations and constraints placed on men and women during that period.
- (b) Examine how in his comedy *The Way of the World*, William Congreve uses clever language, wit and irony to comment on the social conventions, hypocrisy, and folly of the characters on one hand and to reveal character, advance plot, and explore themes on the other.
- (c) Discuss the representation of social class and status in *The Way of the World*. How do the characters' social positions influence their relationships, behaviours, and motivations?
- (d) Analyse the character development of Mirabell and Millamant in *The Way of the World*. How do their characters evolve throughout the play, and what do their relationships with each other reveal about their personalities, values and motivations?

4. Write a short note on any one of the following : 5
- (a) The role of Lady Wishfort in *The Way of the World*
 - (b) The theme of appearance vs. reality in *The Way of the World*
 - (c) Significance of the title, *The Way of the World*
 - (d) Mirabell's motivations and strategies in pursuing Millamant

UNIT—III

5. Answer any one of the following : 10
- (a) Discuss the themes of colonialism and imperialism in *Robinson Crusoe*. How does the novel portray the relationship between Crusoe and the native inhabitants of the island, particularly Friday? What commentary does the novel offer on European colonialism?
 - (b) Analyse the theme of individualism and self-reliance in *Robinson Crusoe* with reference to Crusoe's experience on the island. What implications does this have for his character development?

- (c) How does Crusoe's survival on the island transform him, both practically and morally? Consider the changes in his attitude towards God, his fellow human beings, and his own place in the world.
 - (d) Discuss the effectiveness of the first person confessional narrative explored in *Robinson Crusoe*. How does it contribute to the novel's realism and immediacy?
6. Write a short note on any one of the following : 5
- (a) Themes of capitalism and materialism
 - (b) The role of providence and fate in *Robinson Crusoe*
 - (c) Moral development of the protagonist in *Robinson Crusoe*

UNIT—IV

7. Answer any one of the following : 10
- (a) Discuss, on basis of your reading of Thomas Gray's *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*, the elegy's thematic focus on death, mourning and contemplations of morality.

- (b) Comment on the formal elements of elegy, such as stanza form, metre and rhyme scheme with reference to your prescribed text.
- (c) "*The Rape of the Lock* is a faithful and true reflection of the eighteenth century life in its manifold aspects." Examine the validity of the statement.
- (d) Analyse the mock-heroic style employed by Alexander Pope in *The Rape of the Lock*. How does he use the epic conventions, such as the invocation of the muse, battles, and heroic speeches to satirise the trivial concerns of the aristocracy?
8. Explain any *one* of the following with reference to the context : 5
- (a) Let not Ambition mock their useful toil,
Their homely joys, and destiny obscure;
Nor Grandeur hear with a disdainful smile
The short and simple annals of the poor.
- (b) Full many a gem of purest ray serene,
The dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear :
Full many a flow'r is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.
- (c) But anxious cares the artful Sylphs employ,
To guard the virgin's outmost skirts of dress;
And swift as lightning, prevent the foe,
The ambrosial hill of Cosmetic pow'rs supplies.

(Continued)

- (d) Now lapdogs give themselves the
rousing shake,
And sleepless lovers, just at twelve, awake :
Th' appointed hour of morning now
draws near,
When grave Clarissa wipes her eyes,
and yawns with care.
- (e) Then flashed the living lightning from her eyes,
And screams of horror rend th' affrighted skies.
Not louder shrieks to pitying Heav'n are cast,
When husbands or when lapdogs
breathe their last,
Or when rich China vessels, fall'n from high,
In glitt'ring dust and painted fragments lie!

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