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1 SEM FYUGP MINENG1

2025

(November)

ENGLISH

(Minor)

Paper : MINENG1

(British Poetry and Drama : 14th to 17th Century)

Full Marks : 60 (80 for 2023 Batch)

Time : 2 hours (3 hours for 2023 Batch)

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

UNIT—I

(Literary and Social History)

1. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) Discuss the major social, political and literary features of the Age of Chaucer.
- (b) What is Renaissance humanism? Discuss its main features and how it differs from medieval thought.

- (c) Discuss the dynamic relationship between the stage, the court and the city in England from the 14th to the 17th century. How did this interaction shape the development of English drama and literature during this period?
- (d) Analyze Shakespeare's contribution to English drama and literature. Why is he considered a universal playwright?
- (e) Critically examine the characteristics of metaphysical poetry.

UNIT—II**(Poetry)**

2. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) Discuss *The Nun's Priest's Tale* as a beast fable with a moral message. How does Chaucer use animal characters to reflect human traits?
- (b) Critically examine the character of Chanticleer. How does Chaucer portray him as both noble and ridiculous?
- (c) Comment on the theme of true love in *Sonnet 116*. How does Shakespeare define and glorify the nature of ideal love?

- (d) Discuss John Donne's *The Sunne Rising* as a metaphysical poem. How does Donne use wit, paradox and imagery to express the intensity of love?

3. Answer any one of the following :

5

- (a) Discuss the role of friendship and love in *Sonnet 30*. How does the speaker find comfort despite past sorrows?
- (b) Critically analyze how Donne challenges the power and fear of death in *Death Be Not Proud*. How does he use logic and religious faith to support his argument?
- (c) Comment on the ending of *The Nun's Priest's Tale*. How is it relevant to the tale's events?

UNIT—III**(Elizabethan/Renaissance Drama)**

4. Answer any one of the following :

10

- (a) Examine the theme of knowledge and power in *Doctor Faustus*. How does Faustus' pursuit of knowledge lead to his downfall?

- (b) Analyze the role of the Good Angel and the Evil Angel in *Doctor Faustus*. What do they represent and how do they influence Faustus' actions?
- (c) Critically evaluate *Doctor Faustus* as a morality play with elements of classical tragedy. How does Marlowe blend medieval religious ideas with Renaissance humanism?

5. Answer any one of the following : 5

- (a) Briefly describe the deal Faustus makes with Lucifer.
- (b) Why does Faustus summon Helen of Troy and what does she symbolize?
- (c) How is the conflict between medieval and Renaissance thoughts presented in the play?

UNIT—IV

(Shakespearean Drama)

6. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) Discuss the role of the supernatural in *Macbeth*. How do the witches and other supernatural elements influence the plot and the characters in the play?

- (b) Evaluate *Macbeth* as a tragedy. How does Shakespeare follow the conventions of a tragic hero in his portrayal of Macbeth's character and downfall?
- (c) Discuss the role of disguise and mistaken identity in *Twelfth Night*.
- (d) Analyze the character of Viola. How does she demonstrate intelligence, sensitivity and resilience throughout the play?

7. Answer/Write on any two of the following :
5×2=10

- (a) How does Lady Macbeth's character change from the beginning of the play to the end?
- (b) How does Banquo serve as a contrast to Macbeth in the play?
- (c) Explain the following lines :

All hail, Macbeth! hail to thee,
Thane of Glamis!

All hail, Macbeth! hail to thee,
Thane of Cawdor!

All hail, Macbeth! that shalt be
king hereafter!

(6)

- (d) How does Shakespeare use mistaken identity as a source of both comedy and conflict in *Twelfth Night*?
- (e) Title significance of *Twelfth Night*
- (f) Character sketch of Orsino

(Additional Questions : Only to be attempted by 2023 Batch)

8. Answer any *one* of the following : 5

- (a) Discuss the contribution of the University Wits to the growth of English drama in the Elizabethan Age.
- (b) Evaluate the Elizabethan Age as the Golden Age of English drama.
- (c) Discuss, in brief, Spenser's contribution to the development of English poetry.

9. Answer any *one* of the following : 10

- (a) Discuss the theme of dreams and their interpretation in *The Nun's Priest's Tale*.
- (b) Compare and contrast the themes of love and friendship in *Sonnet 30* and *Sonnet 116*.

(7)

10. Answer any *one* of the following : 5

- (a) Analyze the significance of the blood imagery in *Macbeth*.
- (b) Discuss briefly *Twelfth Night* as a Romantic comedy.
