ENG1501

FOUNDATIONS IN ENGLISH LITERARY STUDIES

Duration 2 Hours

100 Marks

EXAMINERS
FIRST
SECOND
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Closed book examination

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This examination question paper consists of 6 pages.

ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS
ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS
Answer ANY TWO questions

Question 1: Seasons come to Pass

Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow. Please note the following important guidelines:

Each question should be answered in a paragraph of between 10 and 15 lines. Marks are not allocated per question; a global mark out of 50 is awarded to the whole answer.

For each answer, ensure that you quote from the poem or refer to the poem to substantiate your answers.

_To his Coy Mistress_ by Andrew Marvell

Had we but world enough, and time
This coyness, Lady, were no crime
We would sit down, and think which way
To walk and pass our long love's day
Thou by the Indian Ganges' side
Shouldst ru'ries find
Of Humber would complain: I would
Love you ten years before the Flood,
And you should, if you please, refuse
Till the conversion of the Jews
My vegetable love should grow
Vaster than empires, and more slow,
An hundred years should go to praise
Thine eyes and on thy forehead gaze
Two hundred to adore each breast,
But thirty thousand to the rest,
An age at least to every part

TURN OVER
And the last age should show your heart

For, Lady, you deserve this state,
Nor would I love at lower rate

But at my back I always hear
Time's wingèd chariot hurrying near,
And yonder all before us he
Deserts of vast eternity

Thy beauty shall no more be found.
Nor, in thy marble vault, shall sound
My echoing song; then worms shall try
That long preserved virginity,
And your quaint honour turn to dust,
And into ashes all my lust

The grave's a fine and private place,
But none, I think, do there embrace

Now therefore, while the youthful hue
Sits on thy skin like morning dew,
And while thy willing soul conspires
At every pore with instant fires.
Now let us sport us while we may,
And now, like amorous birds of prey,
Rather at once our time devour
Than languish in his slow-chapped power
Let us roll all our strength and all
Our sweetness up into one ball,

TURN OVER
And tear our pleasures with rough strife
Through the iron gates of life
Thus, though we cannot make our sun
Stand still, yet we will make him run

1. The poem is addressed to the speaker’s ‘coy mistress’. Write a paragraph explaining what the speaker wants from his mistress and how he attempts to convince her to do it. Quote from the poem to support your answer.

2. The poet makes use of the poetic device of hyperbole in lines 11-20. Explain this device, quoting and discussing two examples to explain your answer.

3. Consider the imagery in lines 21-32. These all relate to mortality. What emotions are these images intended to evoke from his mistress? Quote and explain three images to support your answer.

4. The third stanza contains images that connote force and violence. Identify two of these images and explain how they relate to the speaker’s intention in this poem.

5. Discuss the speaker’s tone in lines 31-32. How and why does his tone differ from that of the two previous lines?

50 marks

OR

Question 2: Introduction to English Literary Studies

Carefully read the unseen poem below, and answer the questions that follow. Each question should be answered in a paragraph of between 10 and 15 lines.

Remember by Christina Rossetti

Remember me when I am gone away,
Gone far away into the silent land,
When you can no more hold me by the hand,
Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay
Remember me when no more day by day
You tell me of our future that you plann’d
Only remember me, you understand
It will be late to counsel then or pray
Yet if you should forget me for a while
And afterwards remember, do not grieve
For if the darkness and corruption leave

TURN OVER
A vestige* of the thoughts that once I had,
Better by far you should forget and smile
Than that you should remember and be sad

*vestige – a trace of something that is disappearing or no longer exists

1. This is a farewell message. Who is the speaker addressing, and why? Support your answer by referring to the poem.

2. Comment on the repetition of the word ‘gone’ in lines 1 and 2. What is the effect of this repetition?

3. Identify the type of poem, and provide at least three reasons for your answer.

4. Discuss the tone of this poem. Does the tone remain the same throughout the poem? Provide examples from the text to substantiate your answer.

5. Consider the statement. Line 9 marks a change in the poem, indicated by the word ‘Yet’. Do you agree with this statement? In your answer, refer specifically to the content of the poem.

Total: 50

Question 3: The Catcher in the Rye

Throughout the novel, Holden Caulfield attempts to come to terms with his brother Allie’s death.

In an essay of three to four pages, discuss the impact of Allie’s death on Holden as it reverberates throughout the entire novel. Analyse the significance of the fielder’s mitt in your discussion.

50 marks

OR

Question 4: The Road to Mecca

Athol Fugard has created female characters who are trying to break free from the notion that ‘women can only be complete when men are there to take care of them’.

In an essay of three to four pages, discuss how men feature in women’s lives in The Road to Mecca and how each woman struggles to break away from their dependence on men.

50 marks

OR
Question 5: *When Rain Clouds Gather*

One of the major themes in *When Rain Clouds Gather* is the process of healing and recovery, the author casts Dinorego as one of the pivotal characters who enables both healing and recovery in the lives of several people in the village.

Select any three characters from the novel and in an essay of three to four pages discuss how the author establishes the important role played by Dinorego in their process of healing and recovery.

50 marks
TOTAL: 100 marks