



## BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

Term End Examination 2024-2025  
Programme – B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2023  
Course Name – British Literature: 19th Century  
Course Code - BEN30107  
( Semester III )

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2:30 Hours

[The figure in the margin indicates full marks. Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.]

### Group-A

(Multiple Choice Type Question)

1 x 15=15

1. Choose the correct alternative from the following :

- (i) Identify the year when the National Society for Women's Suffrage was formed.
  - a) 1866
  - b) 1867
  - c) 1868
  - d) 1869
- (ii) Recall the individual who famously championed the "novel without a hero."
  - a) William Thackeray
  - b) Miss Oliphant
  - c) Anthony Trollope
  - d) Samuel Richardson
- (iii) Recall which of these is a force determining human actions and behaviour in the works of the Naturalist writers.
  - a) Heredity and Instincts
  - b) Environment
  - c) Heredity, Instincts and Environment
  - d) Instincts and Environment
- (iv) Identify the response that does not contain any of the textual elements used to compare the music in the land of "The Lotos-Eaters" to.
  - a) dew
  - b) granite
  - c) tired eyelids
  - d) None of these
- (v) Establish which of these can be said to constitute the conflict of the speaker in "The Last Ride Together."
  - a) desire v/s resignation
  - b) conception v/s execution
  - c) hedonism v/s asceticism
  - d) attraction v/s repulsion
- (vi) "I gave commands" --explain what command is given and by whom ('My Last Duchess')
  - a) the Duke gave the command to execute a death sentence upon the Duchess
  - b) the Duke commanded the Duchess to stop accepting gifts from everyone
  - c) the Duke commanded the Duchess to stay inside the palace
  - d) None of these
- (vii) Establish who Arnold refers to as the "Barbarians" in Culture and Anarchy.
  - a) The materialistic middle classes made self-centric by certain religious sects and
  - b) The aristocratic classes, now disconnected from the rest of the society they were once

doctrines.

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responsible for, and who are gluttonous and fixated on traditions.

- c) The disenfranchised lower classes who are the victims of social oppression.
- (viii) Identify the response that most accurately explains the following line from *The Mayor of Casterbridge*: "The difference between the peacefulness of interior nature and the willful hostilities of mankind was very apparent at this place."

- a) Hardy effectively sets the stage for his drama by drawing a contrast between the beauty and serenity of nature and Henchard's cruel act of selling his wife
- b) Hardy emphasizes Henchard's mistreatment of Farfrae at the granary, noted for its peaceful atmosphere.
- c) Hardy refers to the vindictive nature of Henchard trying to remarry Susan at the Roman Amphitheatre surrounded by lush green forests populated by animals.
- d) There is no distinct group Arnold refers to as the "Barbarians."

d) None of these

- (ix) Select the correct statement from the following that holds true for Chartism.

- a) The Charter was drawn up in 1834 by the followers of Leigh Hunt as a means of protesting the social inequity of the time, in the aftermath of the Peterloo Massacre.
- b) The Charter was drawn up in 1838 by the textile mill workers of various cities in England as a means of protesting the monopoly wielded by the factory owners of Manchester over the manufacturing industry.
- c) The Charter was drawn up in 1835 by men from various working classes to demand greater representation in labour unions across the country.
- d) The Charter was drawn up by the London Working Men's Association in 1839, placing the demand for men's universal voting rights.

- (x) Infer the statement that captures the symbolic significance of the furmity-cake in *The Mayor of Casterbridge*

- a) The furmity cake is a symbol of purity and innocence since it was served instead of alcohol to Susan at the dinner party, because of her young age.
- b) It symbolizes wealth and prosperity since it was served during wedding ceremonies only for the working classes in Casterbridge.

- c) It was used by Henchard to trick Susan into marrying her, and sets off a series of deceptive and manipulative acts throughout the text. It is ultimately a symbol of deception and manipulation.
- d) None of these

- (xi) Observe which of the following was used to argue that "Dover Beach" was the first truly modern poem in English.

- a) It promotes the advocacy for science in a way that harmonizes the scientific/objective spirit of investigation with the aesthetic/literary tenor.
- b) It explicitly refers to religion and religious dogma as a modern malaise that has affected society and culture

- c) The poem foregrounds specific and material images of isolation to foreground the inevitable state of human desolation in the contemporary world, in ways that were no longer abstract or merely theoretical.
- d) All of these

- (xii) Determine which of Browning's personal philosophical ideas and beliefs is echoed in "The Last Ride Together."

- a) His emphasis on the significance of spiritual and/or religious beliefs to sustain oneself in life
- b) His conviction in the importance of destiny and fate in human life

- c) His critique of modernity is facilitated through a powerful critique of established norms and traditions
- d) His belief in the uncertainties and complexities of human emotions
- (xiii) Identify the science that predicted or studied the criminal tendencies in individuals based on the shape of their skulls.
- a) Anthropometry
- b) Lobotomy
- c) Graphonomy
- d) Phrenology
- (xiv) Determine the statement that aligns with Mill's morally oriented version of Utilitarianism.
- a) an action is morally wrong if it is consciously performed with the intent of harm, which is to say increasing the displeasure or pain of others.
- b) An action is morally wrong if it does not lead to the maximal pleasure for the maximum number of individuals.
- c) An action is morally wrong if and only if it is blameworthy and deserving of punishment.
- d) an action is morally wrong if and only if it can be universally agreed upon as being morally wrong regardless of cultural or ideological differences.
- (xv) Name the novel negative reviews of which led Hardy to abandon writing novels altogether.
- a) Tess of the D'urbervilles
- b) Adam Bede
- c) Jude the Obscure
- d) Mill on the Floss

### Group-B

(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. Write a short note on Corn Laws. (3)
3. Identify the source of these lines and critically explain these: What hand and brain went ever paired? What heart alike conceived and dared? (3)
4. Recall the key marriage reform laws in Victorian England. (3)
5. Observe some of the key features of the British Naturalist novel as exemplified in the work of George Gissing and George Moore. (3)
6. Assemble the instances of pathetic fallacy from the first stanza of "Porphyria's Lover" and write on its role in depicting the psychological state of the speaker. (3)

OR

Develop an overview of the Detective Novel in Victorian Britain, using key authors and texts to illustrate your argument. (3)

### Group-C

(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. Explain how the speaker's use of imagery contribute to the theme of the poem in 'Dover Beach'. (5)
8. Compare and contrast the causes and effects of the obsessive and domineering speakers of "My Last Duchess" and "Porphyria's Lover". Critically examine the aspect of power and control exhibited by these speakers. (5)
9. Examine the validity of regarding the Middle Victorian phase (1848-1870) an age of compromise. (5)
10. In the light of "Culture and Anarchy," justify Arnold's observations on the threats faced by individualism and mass democracy in the Victorian age. (5)
11. Explain the role of memory and nostalgia in both 'Dover Beach' and 'Ulysses', and how are these themes conveyed through language and imagery. (5)
12. Evaluate the following statement the narrator makes in The Mayor of Casterbridge, in light of Hardy's meliorism: "...ingenious machinery contrived by the Gods for reducing human possibilities of amelioration to a minimum." (5)

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OR

Consider the Industrial Revolution and its manifold effects on Victorian England.

(5)

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