



# BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

Term End Examination 2022

Programme – M.A.(ENG)-2021/M.A.(ENG)-2022

Course Name – Restoration and 18th Century

Course Code - MELS104

( Semester I )

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) Which of the following statements best justifies the name Comedy of Manners as a literary genre?
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|--|--|
| a) The Restoration comedies portrayed the manners of the people of England and hence it was called Comedy of Manners                                 | b) The Restoration comedies questions and comments upon the manners and social conventions of a greatly sophisticated and artificial aristocracy and hence it was called Comedy of Manners |
| c) The Restoration comedies portarayed the manner in which comedy as an art form became economically successful and hence the name Comedy of Manners | d) All of the above  |
- (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ was a Restoration diarist who described major public events from close up, including the Great Plague and the Great Fire of London and a naval war against the Dutch.
- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| a) Richard Steele | b) Samuel Pepys     |
| c) Joseph Addison | d) All of the above |
- (iii) Which of the following was not a foundational principle of the Enlightenment?
- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| a) Relativism | b) Rationalism   |
| c) Skepticism | d) Individualism |
- (iv) Statement I: The birth of the English novel occurs during the age of Enlightenment.  
Statement II: The early novelists all employed realism as a narrative strategy
- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| a) Only I is true            | b) The two statements are false                    |
| c) Only Statement II is true | d) Statement I can be used to explain Statement II |
- (v) We associate the Enlightenment era with the spread of reason and rationality. While this may have put to rest mythical ways of thinking, it also allowed the birth of which

- experience which has been used in literary theory, and was first named by Sigmund Freud?
- a) The uncanny  
c) Anxiety
- b) The postcolonial  
d) Planetarity
- (vi) Which best describes Voltaire's stance on religion?
- a) There is no God  
c) God set the world in motion but then retreated and let it be
- b) God is everywhere and controls everything  
d) God is dead
- (vii) Which of the following is not true of Satan's conception in the Romantic Age and the revival of Milton?
- a) He was seen as a renegade and a rebel fighting against oppressive forces of order
- b) Mary Shelly's Frankenstein evokes and pays homage to an omnipotent God warring with his creations and the image of Satan struggling against his creator was seen by Shelly as a fitter emblem of the human condition
- c) Artists like Fuseli envisioned Satan as being sublimely heroic
- d) Cowper battled against his own fears of damnation to win finished his annotations of early books of Paradise Lost
- (viii) Which one of the following is a major argument advanced by John Locke in his Essay Concerning Human Understanding
- a) That the existence of men is confirmed through their ability to think
- b) That existence is absurd but man's quest lies in grappling with the absurd
- c) That there is no original idea it is in fact experience which shapes original ideas
- d) That our very being is performative and human understanding is always relative to that of others'
- (ix) What is the meaning of primary qualities presented by Locke?
- a) Qualities which are important for survival
- b) Qualities which create ideas which more or less correspond with reality
- c) Qualities which do not resemble anything in reality
- d) Qualities assessed through perceptions
- (x) Which of the following is true as a philosophy of Thomas Hobbes in his understanding of the human race?
- a) Human beings are essentially selfish and evil
- b) Human beings are essentially ambitious and motivated
- c) Human beings are essentially intelligent and reasonable
- d) Human beings are essentially poor and irrational
- (xi) What is the novel of manners based on?
- a) The problem of young people education
- b) Routine of everyday life and events
- c) The struggle for survival in life
- d) Friendship and egotism
- (xii) Which of the following is not a Restoration Comedy of Manners?
- a) Love in a Tub  
c) Volpone
- b) The Old Bachelor  
d) The Country Wife
- (xiii) According to Kant, in some affairs of the community, a certain governmental mechanism is necessary in which some members of the public remain \_\_\_\_\_
- a) active  
c) in the know
- b) passive  
d) engaged
- (xiv) Statement I: Writers like Congreve and Wycherley used stock characters like rakes and fops in their plays; Statement II: In his essay 'On the Artificial Comedy of the Last Century', Charles Lamb takes to task the writers for substituting real people for dramatic characters and declare the comedy of manner to be beyond any moral judgement.

- a) I and II cannot be related in any way  
 b) II explains I  
 c) I and II can be related and it is possible to read I as an explanation of II  
 d) II cannot be derived from I
- (xv) What is the Grand Remonstrance?
- a) It refers to a plot to assassinate Charles II  
 b) It was a list of grievances presented to King Charles I of England by the English Parliament on 1 December 1641  
 c) It was a Parliamentary bill to exclude James II to occupy the English throne  
 d) It refers to the rebellion that replaced James II with Mary and William of Orange as the ruling monarchs of England, Scotland and Ireland

**Group-B**

(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. Critique the use of satire and irony in *Gulliver's Travels* (3)
3. Comment upon the narrative technique used by Swift in *Gulliver's Travels*. (3)
4. Facilate how the theme of corruption is related to fall in Book IV of *Paradise Lost* (3)
5. Comment upon Dryden's *Astrea Redux* as a piece of restoration literature. (3)
6. What is as being refered to as Enlightenment in the history of English literature. Answer with reference to Rousseau, Kant, Voltaire, Descartes et al. (3)

**OR**

Discuss the reason why the Restoration Age can be called the Age of Reason (3)

**Group-C**

(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. Comment on Dryden's *Absalom and Achitophel* as a Biblical allusion. Validate with reference to the text. (5)
8. Infer how a study of the illustrations of William Blake and other artists of *Paradise Lost* reveals the magnificence of Milton's radical project of imagination by studying the relation of the image and the text (5)
9. Discuss Dryden's use of heroic couplets in *Absalom and Achitophel*. (5)
10. 'The Restoration age's obession with appearance and status had ties with consumerism and the Empire'. Defend this statement. (5)
11. Comment on the use of language and its limitation in *Paradise Lost* Book IV (5)

**OR**

Estimate how Michael McKeon describes the increased prominence of the novel during the 18th century (5)

12. What is meant as Enlightenment in the history of English literature and culture? Offer a critique of the same through a reading of texts like *Robinson Crusoe* and *Gulliver's Travels*. (5)

**OR**

The Restoration Comedy of Manners can be charted with the rise of capitalism in the European societies. Explicate/ (5)

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