



## BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

**Term End Examination 2023**  
**Programme – B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2021**  
**Course Name – Popular Literature**  
**Course Code - BELS403**  
**( Semester IV )**

**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 amongst the following do you understand to NOT contribute in the formation of the canon?
- a) University reading lists  
b) Syllabus at reputed institutions  
c) Pulp horror novels  
d) All of these
- (ii) Explain why Feminist scholars argue that popular fiction has the potential for ideological subversion.
- a) it can reach a diverse audience and hence is a suitable tool for subverting gender stereotypes  
b) Popular fiction is shifting from being a male-dominated arena to a female-dominated arena  
c) People are seeking to hear the voices of previously oppressed identities and communities  
d) Parodies of classics are now more popular than ever
- (iii) Determine the right name of the 'Potions Master' in Hogwarts school in Harry Potter.
- a) Professor Dumbledore  
b) Professor Snape  
c) Professor Charles Xavier  
d) None of these
- (iv) Identify the correct response: Bildungsroman developed as a portmanteau of two terms, which are
- a) bildungs meaning "culture" and Rome  
b) bildung meaning "education, growth" and roman meaning "novel"  
c) bildung meaning "artist" and roman meaning "novella"  
d) bildung meaning "architecture" and roman meaning "short story"
- (v) Associate the poem 'Tickle-My-Ribs' with the right concept.
- a) Forced laughter  
b) Forced weeping  
c) Both a and b  
d) none of these
- (vi) Determine from the options the correct answer. When Mr. Dursley first saw the cat, it was reading -
- a) A book  
b) A brochure  
c) An address  
d) A map

- (vii) State why Poirot eliminates Parker as the person who made the call.
- a) Parker already had access to the scene of the crime.      b) Parker was not in the house at the time.
- c) Parker had no motive.      d) Miss Russell said Parker was with her at the time the call was made.
- (viii) Recall the circumstances under which Poirot and Dr. Sheppard first met.
- a) Poirot consults the doctor about his digestion      b) They meet at a dinner party at Fernly Park.
- c) Poirot almost hits him with a vegetable marrow.      d) Caroline invites Poirot to tea.
- (ix) State why does Roger Ackroyd ask Dr. Sheppard to come to dinner with him at Fernly Park on the day Mrs. Ferrars died?
- a) He does not want thirteen for dinner.      b) He wants to discuss his shiftless adopted son, Ralph.
- c) Roger thinks he is being slowly poisoned.      d) He wishes to discuss the circumstances of Mrs. Ferrars' death.
- (x) Determine the launch year of the children's monthly 'Sandesh' from the given options.
- a) 1870      b) 1901
- c) 1893      d) 1919
- (xi) Determine whose uncle 'The Inventor' is from the given options.
- a) Chandidas      b) Vir Das
- c) Ghanashyam Das      d) Das Capital
- (xii) Associate the time-frame with which the emergence of the majority of popular fiction is connected.
- a) The Sixteenth Century      b) The Twentieth Century
- c) The Late-Nineteenth Century      d) The Eighteenth Century
- (xiii) Determine the key factor which resulted in the rapid evolution of the genre of Popular Fiction in recent history.
- a) Emergence of the new media technologies      b) The fall of the Soviet Union
- c) The American Revolution      d) The invention of social media
- (xiv) Observe, after Morag Shiach (1989), when the word 'popular' first began to appear in legal contexts.
- a) The Sixteenth Century      b) The Seventeenth Century
- c) The Nineteenth Century      d) The Twentieth Century
- (xv) Extend to one of the given options Jonathan Swift's sense of the word 'popular' when he used the phrase 'popular commotions.'
- a) Low and Vulgar      b) Of high taste
- c) Of mediocre value      d) None of these

### Group-B

(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. How does Hermione's intellect contribute to her friendship with Harry and Ron? Examine. (3)
3. What is the significance of the final showdown between Harry and Voldemort in Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets? Explain. (3)
4. Analyze the symbolism of the "Sorcerer's/Philosopher's Stone" as a metaphor for the journey of self-discovery and self-realization in the first book. (3)
5. Poirot's decision to allow Dr. Sheppard to commit suicide instead of exposing his crime displays his preference for compassion and ethics over law. Justify. (3)



6. "Romance novels have been overwhelmingly written for and by women". Explain. (3)

OR

Chart the reasons provided by the speaker to avoid the company of Mr. Tickle My Ribs in Abol Tabol. (3)

**Group-C**

(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. State your opinion on the character of Flora Paton as a contemporary young woman of early twentieth century. (5)

8. Establish how in "The Rule of Twenty-One", Ray caricatures the unjust, repressive policies of the British colonial government. (5)

9. Establish "Hotch-Potch" as a nonsense rhyme. (5)

10. Explain why Tintin in Tibet can be classified as a graphic novel. (5)

11. Appraise Agatha Christie's treatment of the final disposition of the murder. Do you agree with the end that he met? Why or why not? (5)

12. Develop a brief note on the theme of identity and self-discovery in "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" and "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets", examining how characters like Harry, Ginny, and Moaning Myrtle grapple with their identity and search for self-discovery. (5)

OR

Write in brief about the theme of morality and ethical decision-making in "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" and "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets," examining how characters like Harry, Dumbledore, and Draco Malfoy face moral dilemmas and make ethical choices. (5)

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