



BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

Term End Examination 2022
 Programme – M.A.(ENG)-2021
 Course Name – Children's Literature I
 Course Code - MELS304C
 (Semester III)

Time : 2:30 Hours

Full Marks : 60

[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) Cite which of the following was not an impact of 12th century societal change on children's literature?
- | | |
|---|--|
| a) Rise of towns and middle class so more prolific reading public | b) Return of the classics and classical education particularly Aristotle |
| c) Emphasis on self-realization, self-exploration and the quest for knowledge | d) Widespread protests against the values of the church |
- (ii) The notion of a child/childhood underwent a radical transformation in the works of ____.
- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| a) John Locke | b) Jean Jacques Rousseau |
| c) Charles Darwin | d) All of the above |
- (iii) According to Publishers Weekly, which country has the greatest children's book publishing industry?
- | | |
|----------|----------|
| a) UK | b) USA |
| c) India | d) China |
- (iv) Who suggests that when children move from the pre-operational to the operational stage of cognitive development, they become less egocentric?
- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| a) John Bowlby | b) Erik Erikson |
| c) Jean Piaget | d) B. F. Skinner |
- (v) Which of the following may be regarded as the key assumption/s with respect to censorship in children's literature?
- | | |
|---|---|
| a) Books are such a major influence in the formation of children's values and attitudes that adults need to monitor nearly every word that children read. | b) Children are impressionable and simple-minded, unable to take a balanced view of controversial issues. |
| c) Both of the above | d) None of the above |
- (vi) What is unique about Carl-Johan Forssén Ehrlin's popular book, The Rabbit Who Wants to

Fall Asleep?

- a) It promotes diversity, equity and inclusion
b) It employs a "psychological technique" of narration
c) It exposes children to moral and ethical conundrums
d) It condemns bullying, disabilities, and other religious traditions
- (vii) Which of the following can be regarded as the purpose/s of children's literature?
a) Develop emotional intelligence
b) Develop cognitive skills
c) Encourages creativity
d) All of the above
- (viii) Identify the stage of language development when the child can utter a word supplemented by nonverbal cues.
a) Holophrase
b) Prelinguistic
c) Oedipal
d) Mirror Phase
- (ix) In Sukumar Ray's nonsense poetry, one can find: I: A delightful play of words; II: A pure sensuous virtuosity; III: Sharp political critiques and observations regarding everyday life; IV: Nothing of any aesthetic value Choose the correct combinations.
a) Only II
b) I and II
c) Only III
d) II and IV
- (x) Which of the following is not true of Edward Lear's limerick? I: It has a closed structure; II: Repeating the final word of the first line at the end of the last rather than utilizing the unexpected, punch-line rhyme that characterizes the successful modern limerick; III: The eccentric is compared to the conventional characters; IV: The running theme is of how accepting and kind the world is to people who are different; Choose the correct combination.
a) I and II
b) III and IV
c) Only II
d) Only IV
- (xi) Analyze which of the following is true of the ending of Lear's 'The Owl and the Pussy Cat'?
a) The seemingly childish poem ends on a deeply Romantic note where the characters celebrate their love under the light of the moon and bask in the warmth of their companionship
b) The poem ends with the lives of the cat and the owl being ruined by the pig who steals from them
c) The poem ends as the characters are lost at sea and cry for salvation
d) The poem ends with an indication that the love between the owl and the cat will end just as frivolously as it had begun
- (xii) Statement I: The Tale of Peter Rabbit as a whole subtly explores the question of whether Peter should act on instinct, as an animal, or do as his mother wishes and act like a civilised human. Statement II: Although the story seems to be a moral allegory about why human children should obey their parents, it is Peter's human clothing that hampers his attempts to escape after he acts like a rabbit and steals vegetables from a garden. Select the correct statement/s.
a) Only I
b) Only II
c) Both I and II
d) None of the above
- (xiii) Select the correct statement with reference to Sukumar Ray's nonsense poetry.
a) In the Abol-Tabol, the imperial overhang in Ray's choice of form and his deployment of the fantastic is undeniable.
b) Sukumar Ray has a preoccupation with hybridity, one of the most pressing sociocultural issues of colonial India, and this becomes quite apparent in the very first poem, 'Khichuri' or 'Hotch-potch'
c) Both of the above
d) None of the above
- (xiv) Statement I: 'Children's literature' has not become the 'property' of any group or discipline. Statement II: It is attractive and interesting to students (official or unofficial) of

literature, education, library studies, history, psychology, art, popular culture, media, the caring professions, and so on, and it can be approached from any specialist viewpoint. Infer the correct combination.

- a) Both are true but II is not a proper explanation of I
 b) Both are true and II is a proper explanation of I
 c) I is true but II is false
 d) Both are false
- (xv) Statement I: The nature of children's literature, both as a group of texts and as a subject for study, has been to break down barriers between disciplines, and between types of readers. Statement II: It is at once, one of the liveliest of the arts, and the site of the crudest commercial exploitation. Infer the correct combination.
- a) I is true but II is false
 b) I is false but II is true
 c) Both are true
 d) Both are false

Group-B
(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. "But what shall we do for a ring?" Annotate (3)
3. Criticise the importance of sisterhood and female bonds in *The Bloody Chamber* (3)
4. Write a short note on Locke's and Rousseau's notion of childhood. (3)
5. Examine the influences on Beatrix Potter's *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*. (3)

OR

Examine how the readership of children's literature is a problematic proposition. (3)

6. Describe the influence of puritanism on the association of children's literature and morality (3)

OR

Define censorship in children's literature. (3)

Group-C
(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. Judge the politics of rewriting the fairytale with reference to 'The Bloody Chamber' and 'The Story of Blue Beard' (5)
8. Appraise the significance of the language of Aesop's Fable (5)
9. "Sukumar Ray employs a magic realist technique in his *Abol-Tabol*." Justify. (5)
10. Correlate the way in which Jack Zipes illustrates the difference in the treatment of 'Little Red' (5)

Riding Hood' and 'The Princess and the Frog'

11. Define 'nonsense' verse. Are they meaningless? Explain. (5)

OR

Illustrate how the issue of marginality and theology is problematised by a reading of Vidyasagar's *Varnaporichoy*? (5)

12. Examine the landscape of children's literature and its main concerns during the Renaissance (5)

OR

Describe the implication of associating with evil and the concept of morality with respect to any two Aesop's Fables of your choice (5)
