

# RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

(Residential Autonomous College affiliated to University of Calcutta)

B.A./B.Sc. THIRD SEMESTER EXAMINATION, MARCH 2022

SECOND YEAR [BATCH 2020-23]

ENGLISH (HONOURS)

PAPER : VII [CC7]

Date : 07/03/2022

Time : 11 am – 1 pm

Full Marks : 50

## Group A

1. Write short notes on any one of the following topics: [1×4]

The impact of *Principles of Geology* on Victorian minds; Corn Laws; Forms of alienation engendered by the Industrial Revolution.

2. Answer any one of the following questions: [1×10]

- a) How is the Victorian crisis of faith reflected in the literature of the period?
- b) Why are the Victorian essayists regarded as sages and prophets? Discuss with reference to the work of any one essayist.
- c) Is it fair to say that the Victorian period produced no drama? Give reasons for your answer.

## Group B

3. Explain with reference to the context any one of the passages that follow: [1×6]

- a) How dull it is to pause, to make an end,

To rust unburnished, not to shine in use!

- b) I gave commands;

Then all smiles stopped together.

- c) (To one, it is ten years of years.

. . . Yet now, and in this place,

Surely she lean'd o'er me – her hair

Fell all about my face . . .

Nothing: the autumn-fall of leaves.

The whole year sets apace.)

4. Answer any one of the following questions: [1×10]

- a) “I saw that Poe had done the utmost it was possible to do with the grief of the lover on earth, and so I determined to reverse the condition, and give utterance to the yearning of the loved one in heaven” (D. G. Rossetti). How far is this explanation useful for an understanding of ‘The Blessed Damsel’?

- b) Do you find an undercurrent of desperation behind the assertion of life in Tennyson's 'Ulysses'?  
Answer with close reference to the text.
- c) Arnold's 'Dover Beach' is a 'criticism' of Victorian life. Do you agree? Justify your answer.

### **Group C**

5. Answer **any one** of the following questions: [1×10]
- a) How does Arnold refute the argument that culture is nothing more than "a smattering of Greek and Latin"?
- b) 'Arnold uses a Swiftian parable to establish his argument'. Comment.

### **Group D**

6. Answer **any one** of the following questions: [1×10]
- a) Would you prefer to see *Alice in Wonderland* as children's literature or as a work of social criticism? Explain.
- b) 'We're all mad here. I'm mad. You're mad.' Discuss the relevance of this statement with reference to your reading of *Alice in Wonderland*.

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