

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

(Residential Autonomous College under University of Calcutta)

B.A./B.SC. FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2011

FIRST YEAR

ENGLISH (Honours)

Date : 16/12/2011

Time : 11 am – 3 pm

Paper : I

Full Marks : 100

[Use separate Answer Books for each group]

Group – A

1. Answer **any one** question : (within 550 words) [15]
 - a) Examine *Beowulf* as a document of Anglo-Saxon life.
 - b) Attempt a short assessment of the main Anglo-Saxon prose writers.
2. Write a short note on **any one** of the following (within 250 words) : [6]
 - a) The *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*.
 - b) Importance of Caedmon
3. Answer **any two** of the following (within 30 words) : [2×2 = 4]
 - a) Name the four manuscripts in which the surviving Old English poetry is preserved.
 - b) When was the Battle of Maldon fought and between whom?
 - c) What is the key idea presented in *The Dream of the Rood*?
4. Answer **any one** question (within 550 words) : [15]
 - a) Discuss the importance of Chaucer with reference to at least three of his works.
 - b) Trace the growth of English drama from the Miracle Plays to the Interludes.
5. Write a short note on **any one** of the following (within 250 words) : [6]
 - a) *The Canterbury Tales*.
 - b) Contribution of John Gower to Middle English literature.
6. Answer **any two** of the following (within 30 words) : [2×2 = 4]
 - a) What is the 'Alliterative Revival'?
 - b) What is the subject-matter of the Middle English work *Ancrene Riwle*?
 - c) Which Middle English poem extols the virtues of the ideal knight? In which dialect is it composed?

Group – B

7. Answer **any one** question : (within 550 words) [15]
 - a) 'The influence of Latin on English has been something between a help and a hindrance.'—Examine this view with suitable examples.
 - b) How have loan words from French enriched the vocabulary of the English Language?
 - c) Discuss any two of the 'regular processes' of word formation in English.
8. Answer **any one** of the following (within 200 words) : [5]
 - a) Discuss the Scandinavian law and war terms.
 - b) What is back formation? Illustrate with examples.
9. Answer **any one** of the following (within 400 words) : [10]
 - a) Show with suitable illustrations the influence of the Bible on the English Language.
 - b) Discuss the boldness of Shakespeare in his use of English Language.
 - c) Examine the nature of American influence on English Language.

10. Answer **any one** of the following (within 200 words) : [5]
- a) What is the role played by William Tyndale's gift for phrase-making in shaping the Language of the Authorized Version of the Bible (1611)?
 - b) Describe the influence of slang on colloquial English of modern days.
11. Answer **any one** of the following (within 275 words) : [7]
- a) Describe the articulatory features of the English fricatives.
 - b) What are the functions of back of the tongue and front of the tongue in the production of speech sounds?
12. Give phonetic transcriptions of **any eight** of the following words : [1×8 = 8]
- a) Principal
 - b) Wednesday
 - c) Plosive
 - d) Cheap
 - e) Auction
 - f) Curfew
 - g) Psalm
 - h) Champagne
 - i) Psyche
 - j) Ownership

