

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

(Residential Autonomous College under University of Calcutta)

B.A./B.SC. FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2012

FIRST YEAR

English (Honours)

Paper : I

Date : 14/12/2012

Time : 11am – 3pm

Full Marks : 100

(Use separate answer book for each group)

Group – A

1. Answer **any one** of the following: (Word limit: 550 words) [15]
 - a) Write a note on Anglo-Saxon Christian poetry with special reference to Caedmon and Cynewulf.
 - b) Discuss Beowulf as an Anglo-Saxon epic.
2. Briefly answer **any one** of the following: (Word limit: 250 words) [6]
 - a) Assess the contribution of either Aelfric or Wulfstan.
 - b) Write a short note on 'The Husband's Message'.
3. Answer **any two** of the following: (Word limit: 30 words) [2×2]
 - a) How many versions of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle exist?
 - b) In which poem is 'ofermode' held to be the cause of defeat? Who was defeated by whom?
 - c) What is meant by 'kenning'?
4. Answer **any one** of the following: (Word limit: 550 words) [15]
 - a) Assess the importance of Chaucer in the history of English Literature.
 - b) Examine the Middle English Metrical Romances with special reference to the Matter of England and the Matter of Britain.
5. Write a short note on **any one** of the following: (Word Limit 250 words) [6]
 - a) Langland
 - b) Morality Play
6. Answer **any two** of the following: (Word limit: 30 words) [2×2]
 - a) Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.
 - b) Name the four cycles of Miracle Plays.
 - c) What is psychomachia?

Group – B

1. Answer **any one** of the following: (Word limit: 550 words) [15]
 - a) Examine the nature and extent of the French influence on the English language.
 - b) Make an assessment of the Scandinavian influence on the English language.
 - c) Discuss the regular processes by which 'native resources' are utilized and new words are formed in English.
2. Answer **any one** of the following: (Word limit: 200 words) [5]
 - a) Write a short note on Grimm's Law
 - b) Pre Christian Latin loans.
3. Answer **any one** of the following: (Word limit: 400 words) [10]
 - a) Assess the contribution of Shakespeare towards enriching the English language.
 - b) Show with suitable illustrations how Bible has influenced the English language.
 - c) Justify Wren's statement that "American English has very considerably influenced British English."

4. Answer **any one** of the following: (Word limit: 200 words) [5]
- Discuss the specific features of Shakespeare's boldness in the use of language.
 - Write a brief note on the Authorised Version of the Bible.
5. Answer **any four** of the following: (Word limit: 30 words for each answer) [4×2]
- What are 'discourse markers'? Cite two examples of 'discourse markers'.
 - Make a sentence with the following pair of words: big and great
 - Mention any two of the forms in which participles can be used.
 - Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with appropriate prepositions:
 - I'll agree ____ your suggestion if you lower the price.
 - I must congratulate you ____ your exam results.
 - How long have you been married ____ Sheila?
 - I'm thinking ____ studying Chemistry.
 - What are 'co-ordinating conjunctions'? Cite two examples.
 - What is 'slang'? Give two examples of 'slang'.
6. Write a literary appreciation of any one of the following poems: (Word limit: 275 words) [7]
- 'Cock Crow'

Out of the wood of thoughts that grows by night
 To be cut down by the sharp axe of light, --
 Out of the night, two cocks together crow,
 Cleaving the darkness with a silver blow:
 And bright before my eyes twin trumpeters stand,
 Heralds of splendour, one at either hand,
 Each facing each as in a coat of arms:
 The milkers lace their boots up at the farms.
 - 'The Country Clergy'

I see them working in old rectories
 By the sun's light, by candlelight,
 Venerable men, their black cloth
 A little dusty, a little green
 With holy mildew. And yet their skulls,
 Ripening over so many prayers,
 Toppled into the same grave
 With oafs and yokels. They left no books,
 Memorial to their lovely thought
 In grey parishes; rather they wrote
 On men's hearts and in the minds
 Of young children sublime words
 Too soon forgotten. God in his time
 Or out of time will correct this.

