

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

(Residential Autonomous College affiliated to University of Calcutta)

B.A./B.Sc. FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2015

FIRST YEAR

ENGLISH (Honours)

Date : 14/12/2015

Time : 11 am – 3 pm

Paper : I

Full Marks : 100

(Use a separate Answer book for each group)

Group – A

1. Answer **any eight** questions of the following : (8 × 2)
 - a) What is the name of Hrothgar's mead-hall? What social function is played by this hall?
 - b) On which monument are some lines from 'The Dream of the Rood' engraved? Where is this monument?
 - c) To whom does Beowulf leave the kingship of the Geats? Why does Beowulf choose him as his successor?
 - d) List the seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms.
 - e) Name the four major Anglo-Saxon Codices or books, in which almost all extant works of the period may be found.
 - f) When was the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* initiated, and under whose influence? How many versions of the Chronicle exist? Give the approximate period-dates of these versions.
 - g) When did the Norman Conquest take place? Who was the first Norman king of England?
 - h) Name two Tales from *The Canterbury Tales*, besides 'The Pardoner's Tale'.
 - i) Where do the Chaucerian pilgrims meet? Where are they headed?
 - j) Name two knights who belonged to King Arthur's Round Table.
 - k) Who were the Lollards?
 - l) By what other name is the Peasants' Revolt known? Who was the English monarch when this Revolt took place?
2. Answer **any one** question of the following : (1 × 17)
 - a) What picture of the lives of scops do you get from the Old English elegies?

Or,

 - b) Discuss the contribution of Aelfric, Wulfstan, and Alfred, in the development of Old English prose.
3. Answer **any one** question of the following : (1 × 17)
 - a) What does Chaucer's 'The Pardoner's Tale' tell you about medieval anxieties regarding mortality?

Or,

 - b) 'It is Gawain's recognition of his own failings that makes him a hero.' Discuss with reference to Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.

Group – B

4. Answer **any eight** questions of the following : (8 × 2)
 - a) How did Daedalus plan to escape from Crete with his son Icarus? Was he successful?
 - b) Name any four of the Muses?
 - c) Name the presiding deity of epic poetry. What do you know about her?
 - d) Why was Zeus angry with Prometheus? How was Prometheus punished?
 - e) Name two gods who were involved in the creation of Pandora.
 - f) Who punished Narcissus and for what reason? What happened to Narcissus in the end?

- g) Who was Orpheus? What influence did he have over wild animals and trees?
- h) What role was assigned to the Furies in Greek myth?
- i) Who was Persephone? What did she symbolize?
- j) Name any two of the Moirai. Who was the only God not bound by them?

5. Answer **any eight** questions of the following :

(8 × 2)

- a) Who was John Wycliffe, and with which Biblical work is he credited?
- b) When did the Authorised Version of the Bible appear in England? By which name do we also know it?
- c) According to the Book of Genesis, on which day did God create fish and birds?
- d) Name the prophet who made the Exodus possible. Which miracle made the escape from the Egyptian soldiers finally come true?
- e) Where and to whom did God deliver His Ten Commandments?
- f) What was the name of the Promised Land, and under whose leadership was it occupied and settled?
- g) Who succeeded David? Give any one of the two names by which the story of this succession is known.
- h) In which role does the Gospel according to St Matthew chiefly portray Jesus?
- i) Name any two of the five discourses found in the Gospel according to St Matthew.
- j) In what calculation is the scheme of 'fourteen generations' often used in the Bible, apparently based?

6. Write a note on **any three** of the following :

(3 × 6)

- a) Hesiod
- b) Euripedes
- c) Menander
- d) Antigone
- e) Aeneid
- f) Metamorphoses

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