

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

(Residential Autonomous College affiliated to University of Calcutta)

B.A. /B.Sc. FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2017

FIRST YEAR (BATCH 2017-20)

ENGLISH (Honours)

Date : 12/12/2017

Time : 11am - 3pm

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) When was the Battle of Brunanburh fought? Who won the battle?
 - b) What is Kenning? Give two examples.
 - c) To whom does Beowulf leave the Kingship of the Geats? Why does Beowulf choose him as his successor?
 - d) Give the year in which the Battle of Maldon was fought. Which shortcoming of Bryhnoth led to his defeat in this battle?
 - e) Why did Beowulf answer Hrothgar's request for help? Name the mead hall attacked by Grendel.
 - f) List any two of the surviving Old English poetic codices.
 - g) What is the importance of Bayeux tapestry in the history of English literature?
 - h) What is rhyme royal? Name at least two poems where Chaucer used it.
 - i) Who is the author of *The Vision of Piers Plowman*? Where does the hero fall asleep?
 - j) What was the primary cause that led to what came to be known as the "Becket Controversy"?
 - k) Where did women in general fall in the three estates? What were three "feminine estates"?
 - l) Which King put his seal to the *Magna Carta*? When was this done?
2. Answer **any one** of the following: (1 × 17)
 - a) Show with reference to specific Old English poems, how they depict "a sense of the vanity of life, the melancholy regret for departed glories"?
 - b) Discuss the contributions of **either** Caedmon **or** King Alfred, to Anglo- Saxon literature.
3. Answer **any one** of the following: (1 × 17)
 - a) Discuss the role of feudalism in organizing society and culture in the High and Late Middle Ages.
 - b) Is Gawain a 'flawed hero'? Argue with reference to *Sir Gawain* and the *Green Knight*.

P.T.O.

Group - B

4. Answer **any eight** questions of the following: (8 × 2)
- a) What was the punishment devised by the gods of the Underworld for Sisyphus?
 - b) Who was Prometheus? How did he help men?
 - c) Name the presiding deity of epic poetry, comedy, tragedy and history.
 - d) Where did the Muses reside? Why were they invoked?
 - e) Name two important inventions of Daedalus.
 - f) What is the meaning of the name “Orpheus” and how is it related to the story of Orpheus in Greek mythology?
 - g) What did the jar brought by Pandora contain? What happened when the jar was opened?
 - h) Write in short about the birth of Apollo.
 - i) What did the Greek myth about the Quest for the Golden Fleece exemplify?
 - j) Why did Hades snatch Persephone? What did she symbolize?
5. Answer **any eight** questions of the following: (8 × 2)
- a) What is the Septuagint?
 - b) What do you mean by “Pentateuch”?
 - c) Whose work led to the production of the English Bible in 1382?
 - d) When did the Authorised Version of the Bible appear in England? Who first printed it?
 - e) On which day of Creation do fish and birds appear, and on which day animals?
 - f) Name any two parables from the Gospel by St. Mathew.
 - g) Whose visit to honour the child Christ finds mention only in the Gospel by St. Matthew?
 - h) What is the meaning of The Parable of the Leaven that appears in Matthew 13:33?
 - i) Name the four women who appear in Christ’s genealogy in the Gospel by St. Matthew.
 - j) On the value of which King’s name is the calculation of 14 generation of Christ’s genealogy based?
6. Write short notes on **any three** of the following: (3 × 6)
- a) Sophocles
 - b) Sappho
 - c) The Frogs
 - d) Virgil
 - e) Thyestes
 - f) Euripedes

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