



MAR IVANIOS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Reg. No. :.....

Name :.....

First Semester B.A. Degree Examination, November 2015

First Degree Programme under CBCSS

Core Course: English – I

AUEN141: Reading Poetry

(for 2015 Admissions Only)

Time: **3 Hours**

Max. Marks: **80**

SECTION – A

Answer ALL questions each in a word or in a sentence.

1. What, according to Shakespeare, is the problem with “summer’s lease” ?
2. How does Thomas Gray depict the “lowing herd” in the opening stanza of “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard” ?
3. What is the name of the ‘sacred river’ mentioned by Coleridge in the poem, “Kubla Khan” ?
4. What condition was the speaker in, when Porphyria came to him ?
5. What was the game the speaker and his friend in the poem, “A Subaltern” used to play when they were younger ?
6. What does Yeats choose to do, when he realizes that he is unable to find a new theme ?
7. Why is Macavity the Mystery Cat called the Hidden Paw ?
8. Mention the two major devices used by Louis MacNeice to build the rhythm of the poem, “Prayer before Birth”.
9. What product is discussed in Peter Porter’s poem, “A Consumer’s Report” ?

P.T.O.

10. Who is the speaker in the first section of U. A. Fanthorpe's poem "Not My Best Side" ?

(10 × 1 = 10 Marks)

SECTION – B

Answer any **EIGHT** questions, each in a short paragraph not exceeding 50 words.

11. What is *terza rima* ? Mention the name of a poet who used this.
12. What do you understand by the term, *Free Verse* ?
13. How do you distinguish between a *simile* and a *metaphor* ? Cite examples.
14. What are the characteristic features of *haiku* ?
15. What is a *metaphysical conceit* ? Illustrate your answer citing an example from Donne's poem, "A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning".
16. What happened to the forests in Byron's poem, "Darkness," after the sun extinguished ?
17. In what way does the childhood joy of the speaker in "A Subaltern" contrast with his present ?
18. What is the significance of Yeats' reference to "the foul rag and bone shop of the heart" ?
19. How does Eliot describe the physical appearance of Macavity ?
20. What are Kamala Das' observations on the languages she uses ?
21. How does Brecht compare humans and machines in his poem, "General, Your Tank" ?
22. Write a short note on the metaphor of the ladder in Yeats' poem, "The Circus Animals' Desertion".

(8 × 2 = 16 Marks)

SECTION – C

Answer any **SIX** questions, each in a paragraph not exceeding 100 words.

23. Write a note on the formal differences between the Petrarchan and Shakespearean sonnet forms citing suitable examples.
24. Sum up your observations on the poetic form, *elegy*. Mention examples wherever required.

25. What are the general features of the *Dramatic Monologue* ? Support your answer with references to the poems in this mode you have read.
26. Give a short description of the visionary landscape Coleridge presents in his poem, "Kubla Khan".
27. How does Byron portray the sunless world in the poem, "Darkness" ?
28. Attempt a critical reading of Frost's "The Road not Taken," bringing out the complexity of the poem.
29. Consider "Prayer Before Birth" as a Dramatic Monologue.
30. How does Yeats "enumerate old themes" in "The Circus Animals' Desertion" ?
31. Write a short note on the evolution of the speaker's positions as a writer and as a woman in "An Introduction".

(6 × 4 = 24 Marks)

SECTION – D

Answer any TWO questions, each in about 300 words.

32. Consider John Donne as a Metaphysical poet based on your understanding of the poem, "A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning".
33. Attempt a thematic analysis of Thomas Gray's poem, "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard".
34. How does Browning develop the narrative in "Porphyria's Lover" ? What is the poetic form he employs for this ?
35. Attempt a critical reading of the following poem, paying attention to thematic organization, use of figurative language and form.

MILTON! thou should'st be living at this hour:
 England hath need of thee: she is a fen
 Of stagnant waters: altar, sword, and pen,
 Fireside, the heroic wealth of hall and bower,
 Have forfeited their ancient English dower
 Of inward happiness. We are selfish men;
 Oh! raise us up, return to us again;
 And give us manners, virtue, freedom, power.

Thy soul was like a Star, and dwelt apart:
Thou hadst a voice whose sound was like the sea:
Pure as the naked heavens, majestic, free,
So didst thou travel on life's common way,
In cheerful godliness; and yet thy heart
The lowliest duties on herself did lay.

(2 × 15 = 30 Marks)

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