



UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA
පේරාදෙණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය



CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION
දුරස්ථ හා අඛණ්ඩ අධ්‍යාපන කේන්ද්‍රය

FIRST EXAMINATION IN ARTS (EXTERNAL) - AUGUST 2018
ප්‍රථම ශාස්ත්‍ර පරීක්ෂණය (බාහිර) - අගෝස්තු 2018

ENG 102: Pre-Eighteenth Century English Poetry and Drama

Time allowed: Three (03) Hours

Answer FOUR QUESTIONS , choosing at least ONE from EACH PART

PART A: POETRY

1. Undertake a detailed analysis of the “Prologue” to the *Canterbury Tales*, “The Pardoner’s Tale,” or the “Nun’s Priest’s Tale,” pointing to the kind of society that the text depicts through your selection.
2. Write an essay on the significant changes Shakespeare makes in the Petrarchan sonnet form and what those changes may mean thematically, poetically and socially. Please refer to at least 3 sonnets of your choice.

OR

Undertake an analysis of at least 3 of Shakespeare’s sonnets, paying attention to the way “Time” is used as a significant conceit within the structure of the sonnet and the structure of meanings that the sonnets produce.

3. Examine the way John Donne’s and Andrew Marvell’s poetry represent the poetic conventions and sentiments of Metaphysical Poetry . Refer to at least TWO poems by each poet.
4. “*Paradise Lost* by Milton is supposed to justify God’s ways. Instead, it seems to perpetually call them into question.” Examine this statement in relation to how Milton has been viewed as a revolutionary poet. Make detailed reference to at least one of the Books of *Paradise Lost*.
5. How do you place John Dryden’s poetry in the historical context of the time he wrote? Respond with reference to at least one of Dryden’s poetic works.

6. “Robert Burns’s poetry is related to the revival of the use of the Scottish dialect, songs and folklore in the 18th century. It is important to look at this aspect when one studies Burns’s poetry.” Do you agree? Discuss with reference to at least TWO of his poems.
7. Anne Bradstreet is an important voice in Colonial America. Undertake an analysis of her poetry in terms of the themes and poetic conventions of her poems. Refer to at least TWO of her poems.

PART B: DRAMA

8. What role does *Everyman* play in the development of English Theatre? Explain with reference to the themes and dramatic features of the play.
9. “Theatre was a radical and subversive art in late 16th century England. *Dr. Faustus* by Marlowe exemplifies this trend and at the same time represents its limitations too.” Discuss.
10. Write a critical evaluation of EITHER *King Lear* OR *The Tempest* in terms of how Shakespeare looks at the question of the collapse of authority and the restoration of authority, which are recurring themes in Shakespearean plays.
11. “Ben Jonson’s play *Volpone* is not about comic effect but is about raising, moral concerns in a society that was known for corruption and greed. “ Do you agree? Respond with reference to the play.
