

# QUESTION BANK

THREE- YEAR B.A. HONOURS COURSE

2015-2016

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

Heramba Chandra College

# **Department of English**

**Heramba Chandra College**

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# Paper 1

## History of English Literature

### GROUP A

1. Write a short essay on Old English Christian poetry.
2. Write a short essay on Old English prose.
3. Critically analyse Beowulf as an epic.
4. Examine the three principal phases of the development of Chaucer's poetic career with special reference to one major work of each period.
5. Assess the importance of William Langland in Middle English poetry.
6. Write an essay on the allegorical poetry of the Middle English Period.
7. Bring out the main characteristics of the Middle English Romances with special reference to the Arthurian cycle.
8. Trace the origin and development of English drama from Miracle plays down to the Interludes.
9. Write an essay on the growth and development of the Elizabethan sonnet.
10. Give a critical estimate of Elizabethan and Jacobean Revenge Tragedy.
11. Assess the importance of the University Wits in the history of English drama.
12. Give an account of Jacobean drama with special reference to the works of any two playwrights.
13. Discuss Pope's contribution to the history of English literature.
14. Discuss Dryden's contribution to the history of English literature.
15. Trace the rise and growth of the English novel with detailed analysis of either Defoe or Richardson.
16. Who was Henry Fielding? Give an analysis of his works.
17. What is the epistolary novel? Write an essay on any one epistolary novelist.
18. Write what you know about Smollett or Sterne as a novelist.
19. Discuss Swift as a prose satirist.
20. What is a satire? Discuss Samuel Butler as a satirist.
21. Discuss the Restoration comedy of manners.
22. Write an essay on the Restoration tragedy.
23. What do you understand by heroic tragedy? Write a note on the plays of the dramatists who wrote the heroic tragedy.

## **GROUP B**

24. Give a critical estimate of the Victorian women novelists with reference to any two of them.
25. Write a note on the contribution of Victorian poets to English poetry with reference to any two of them.
26. Comment on the role of the non-fiction prose writers of the Victorian period.
27. The tensions of the modern period clearly demand a new poetic technique. Discuss with reference to any two poets.
28. Write a note on the poetry of the First World War with special reference to any two poets of the time.
29. Critically evaluate the contribution of James Joyce or Virginia Woolf to the twentieth century novel.
30. How is T. S. Eliot's poem a true portrayal of the condition of modern man in the early decades of the twentieth century?
31. What innovations in drama were introduced by the following dramatists-  
John Osborne  
Samuel Beckett  
Harold Pinter
32. Write an essay on the Theatre of the Absurd.

## **Philology**

1. Discuss what you know about the Stress Shift and Consonant Shift in England
2. What do you understand by Grimm ' s Law? Elucidate your answer
3. What do you understand by Verner ' s Law? Elucidate your answer
4. What is Stress Shift? Give detailed examples to prove your point
5. What is the Consonant Shift? Give detailed examples to prove your point
6. Which would you consider more important in the history of English language - Consonant Shift or Stress Shift? Give adequate reasons for your answer.

7. Discuss the influence of Milton in history of English language. Give adequate examples
8. Discuss the influence of the Bible in the history English language. Elucidate.
9. How important is Shakespeare in the history of English language ? Elucidate with examples
10. What Biblical influences do you find in your study of the English language? Elucidate
11. Write what you know about the American influence on the English language.
12. Examine the nature and significance of the Scandinavian loan element in English.
13. 'An Englishman cannot thrive or be ill or die without Scandinavian words; they are to the language what bread and eggs are to the daily fare'. Discuss.
14. Give an account of the French loan element in English vocabulary and comment on these borrowings.
15. Describe the effect of the Norman Conquest on the English language.
16. Write an essay on Derivation as a process of forming new words in English.
17. Write a note on 'back-formation' and cite some examples of words formed by this process.
18. Write an essay on Composition as a process of forming new words in English.