

VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY
DIRECTORATE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

MIDNAPORE -721 102



SYLLABUS

M.A. Course
in

ENGLISH

In all papers (except papers IV & VI) there will be some texts for detailed study and some others for non-detailed study. The texts meant for detailed study will figure in the syllabus as star (*) ones,

The examinees will be asked to comment critically on certain lines, phrases, etc quoted from the starred (*) texts. Each of these comments will have to be written in words not exceeding one hundred (100).

Passages for explanation will also be set from the starred texts/pieces.

PAPER I (SHAKESPEARE)

- (a) Shakespeare criticism and scholarship.
- (b) Shakespeare's dramas
 - (★) King Lear ; (★) The Tempest (★) Measure for Measure
 - A. Mid Summer Night's Dream; Hamlet ; Henry IV
 - Part-I & Part-II
- (c) Shakespearean Sonnets : 10, 27, 30, 33, 53, 54, 55, 66, 97, 129, 130, 131, 132, 138, 141.

[To be answered 1 Q of 16 marks from (a); 2 Qs from

- (b) (★) (16×2)

1. Q from (b) 16 ; 1 Q of 16 marks from (c) 16; Explanation 1 of 10 marks ; Comments from texts 2Q (2 × 5))

Paper II (Poetry)

- Chaucer : (★) Prologue to the Canterbury Tales
- Donne : (★) Canonisation, (★) The Extasie,
(★) The Good Morrow
- Herbert : The Collar
- Milton : Paradise Lost Bk 1

Pope : Dunciad Bk 1

Blake : London, Sick Rose

Wordsworth : The Prelude Bk 1

Coleridge : (★) The Rime of the Ancient Mariner ;
(★) Dejection : An Ode

Shelley : Alastor

Keats : (★) Induction to the Fall of Hyperion;
(★) To Homer ; All the Odes.

Browning : (★) Andrea Del Sarto; (★) Fra Lippo Lippi

Tennyson : In Memoriam (selections

Hopkins : (★) Felix Randal
(★) The Windhover
(★) I Wake and Feel
(★) Thou art indeed just, Lord.

W. B. Yeats : (★) The song of Wandering Aengus
(★) Among School children
(★) Byzantium
(★) Sailing to Byzantium
(★) A Coat.
(★) Easter 1916

D H. Lawrence : Snake; Bavarian Gentians

T.S. Eliot : (★) Prufrock
(★) The Hollow Man
(★) Burnt Norton

W. H. Auden : (★) Musee des Beaux Arts

Dylan Thomas : (★) A Refusal to Mourn the Death by
Fire of a child in London

Louis Macneice : (★) Bagpipe Music
(★) Snow

Ted Hughes : The Crow (selections)
[To be answered : 4Qs. (4 × 16); Expl : 2 (10×2);
Comments from (★) pieces 4 (4×4)]

Paper III (Fiction & other prose)

Fielding : Tom Jones

Defoe : Moll Flanders

G. Eliot : Middlemarch

Hardy : (★) Tess of the D'Urbervilles

Conrad : (★) Heart of Darkness

Lawrance : (★) Sons and Lovers

Joyce : (★) The Portrait of an Artist
as a Young Man.

Arnold : Culture & Anarchy (2 Chapters)

Lyttun Strachey : Florence Nightingale

Chesterton : Defence of Nonsense

Virginia Woolf : The Mark on the Wall.

[To be answered : 5Qs (5×16) of these 4Qs. from the works
of fiction, 1Q from non-fiction; Comments from (★) texts 4 (4 × 5)]

Paper IV (Grammar & Phonetics)

English Grammar

“Word Classes” and their functions

Grammatical relations in sentences and phrases : subject,
object, indirect object, etc; subject-predicate, head-modifier, etc.
sentence patterns in “kernel sentences”, (ie simple sentence)
Main verbs and auxiliaries
Modification : adjectives and adjectival phrases, adverbs and
adverbial phrases, etc

Embedding : Clauses in subject object/ prepositional object position, clauses with a modifier function, etc

Relations between structures : active / passive, "dative shift" (i.e. the relations between ditransitive complementation and the "V-NP-to-NP" structure), "particle movement" (i.e. transitive phrasal verbs with the particle preceding and following the direct object), alternation of tensed and infinitival complements, "extraposition from it" (i.e. extraposition of clausal subject or clausal object), etc.

Movement to clause-initial position : question formation, relativization, topicalization ("thematic fronting"), etc

Rules of ellipsis : VP deletion (i.e. ellipsis of the predication), gapping (i.e. ellipsis of the verb), conjunction reduction, etc

Rules of "focus" : Clefts, pseudo-clefts, etc

Phonetics and Spoken English

Introduction : the use of spoken English in India; the need for a widely intelligible and generally acceptable form of spoken English.

The speech mechanism : organs of speech respiratory system, phonatory system, articulatory system

The description and classification of speech sounds : description and classification of vowels; description and classification of consonants

The phoneme,

The syllable

Various accents of English : native and non-native accents of English : Various Indian accents of English ; the Received Pronunciation of England (RP)

The vowels of English

The consonants of English ; consonant clusters

Word accent

Accent and rhythm in connected speech, and rhythm in verse

Intonation.

NOTE : Problems of Indian learners of English in a given region will be dealt with under the appropriate topics. Such problems might fall under the following headings :

"Difficult" sounds / sound distinctions

Consonant clusters

Peculiarities of word accentuation

Division of an utterance into tone groups

Identification of the nucleus.

Paper V (Plays other than Shakespeare's)

Marlowe	:	(★) Doctor Faustus
Webster	:	(★) The Duchess of Malfi
Detcker	:	Shoemakers' Holiday
Congreve	:	(★) The Way of the World
Oscar Wilde	:	The Importance of being Earnest.
G. B. Shaw	:	Man and Superman
T. S. Eliot	:	(★) Murder in the Cathedral
H. Pinter	:	Birthday Party

[To be answered : 2 Qs from the starred (★) texts (2×16)
2 Qs (2×16) from the non-starred texts; Expl. 2. 2×10); Comments from the (★) texts 4 (4×4)]

Paper VI (Literary criticism & Essay)

Aristotle	:	Poetics (Selections)
Sidney	:	An Apology for Poetry
Dryden	:	An Essay of Dramatic Poesy

Wordsworth	:	Preface to Lyrical Ballads (1802)
Coleridge	:	Biographia Literaria (Chapters 13, 14, 18)
T S. Eliot	:	Tradition and Individual Talent: The Metaphysical poetry.
I. A. Richards	:	Principles of Literary Criticism (Selections)
T. Eagleton	:	Literary criticism : An Introduction (Selections)

One Essay

[To be answered : 4 Qs (4 x 15); Essay 40 marks]

Optional I (Indo-Anglian & Anglo-Indian Literature)

M. R. Annad	:	(★) Coolie
R. Rao Narayan	:	(★) Kanthapura
R. K. Narayan	:	(★) The Guide
G. Karnad	:	(★) Hayavadana
U. R. Ananthamurthy	:	Samaskara
R. Tagore	:	Gora
E. M. Forster	:	A Passage to India
G. Orwell	:	(★) Burmese Days
Indo-Anglian Poetry	:	Derozio (Selections)
	:	(★) S. Naidu (Selections)
	:	(★) N. Ezekiel (Selections)
	:	(★) Kamala Das (Selections)
	:	(★) Jayanta Mahapatra (Selections)
	:	A. Kulkarni (Selections)

[To be answered : 5 Qs (5 x 16) : Comments 4(4 x 5)]

Optional II (Middle English Literature in English translation)

- (★) Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
- (★) Pearl
- (★) Everyman
- (★) Piers Plowman.
- (★) Nun's Priest's Tale
- (★) The Owl and the Nightingale
- Layamon's Brut
- Havelok the Dane

[To be answered : 5 Qs (5 x 16); Comments 4(4 X 5)]

Optional III (American Literature)

Mark Twain	:	Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.
Melville	:	Moby Dick
Henry James	:	Portrait of a Lady
Fitzgerald	:	Great Gatsby
Hemingway	:	The Oldman and the Sea
Steinbeck	:	Grapes of Wrath
Faulkner	:	As I Lay Dying
E. O'Neill	:	Mourning Becomes Electra
(★) A. Miller	:	Death of a Salesman
(★) T. Williams	:	Glass Menagerie
(★) E.A.Poe	:	(Selections)
(★) Whitman	:	(„)
(★) R. Frost	:	(„)
E. Dickinson	:	(„)
Sylvia Plath	:	(„)

[To be answered : 5 Qs (5×16); Comments 4 (4×5)]

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