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Reg. No. :

Name :

First Semester B.A. Degree Examination, November 2019

First Degree Programme under CBCSS

English Language and Literature

Core Course – I

EN 1141 READING POETRY

(2014 Admission Onwards)

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 80

I. Answer **all** questions, **each** in a word or sentence.

1. What symbolic role does darkness play in Byron's poem by the same name?
2. What is the theme of the poem "Circus Animals' Desertion"?
3. What is the other name by which Macavity is known?
4. What poetic device can be found in the lines "Shall I compare thee to a summers' day"?
5. In its language of origin, which poetic form insists that it have only a total of 17 syllables?
6. What makes the fakir stare in wonder at Macavity?
7. What is the weather like at the beginning of the poem "Porphyria's Lover"?

P.T.O.

8. What does the poet see in the yellow wood?
9. Which river finds a mention in "Kubla Khan"?
10. What is the refrain in the poem "Prayer before Birth"?

(10 × 1 = 10 Marks)

II. Answer any **eight**, each in a short paragraph not exceeding **50** words.

11. John Donne was considered a metaphysical poet. How does the poem "A Valediction Forbidding Mourning" fit with the trait of metaphysical poetry?
12. "And every fair from fair sometimes declines". What are the two meanings of "fair" here"?
13. What sacrifice did Countess Cathleen make in the poem "Circus Animals' Desertion"?
14. What according to Brecht is the inherent weakness of apparently powerful machines?
15. What might the dead rustics become if they get proper opportunities?
16. How did the last two people on earth behave? Respond with regard to your reading of the poem "Darkness".
17. Objective Poetry.
18. Meter in poetry.
19. Alliteration.
20. Blank Verse.
21. How does Kamala Das defend her choice to write and speak in English?
22. How did Pophyria die?

(8 × 2 = 16 Marks)

III. Answer any **six**, each in a paragraph not exceeding **100** words

23. Kubla Khan as a romantic poem.
24. How does Porphyria's lover defend his murder of her?
25. The epitaph in "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard".
26. Description of Xanadu.
27. Evaluate Sonnet 18 for its style.
28. The dragon's perspective in "Not my Best side"
29. How does Eliot describe Macavity's escapades?
30. Comment on how Yeats references his own works in the poem "Circus Animals' Desertion".
31. Role of imagery in poetry with examples.

(6 × 4 = 24 Marks)

IV. Answer any **two** (choosing one from 32, 33 & 34; question 35 is compulsory) in about **300** words.

32. "General Your Tank" and "Prayer Before Death" are both poems written in the background of World Wars. Comment on how the two poems treat the same theme.
33. Attempt an appreciation of the poem "Darkness" by Lord Byron.
34. Evaluate the humour and irony in U.A Fanthorpe's "Not my Best Side".

35. Attempt a critical analysis of the following poem giving importance to the theme and overall structure, with emphasis on figures of speech and other poetic devices.

If we must die, let it not be like hogs
Hunted and penned in an inglorious spot,
While round us bark the mad and hungry dogs,
Making their mock at our accursed lot.
If we must die, O let us not be shed
So that our precious blood may nobly die,
In vain; then even the monsters we defy
Shall be constrained to honor us though dead!
O kinsmen! We must meet the common foe!
Though far outnumbered let us show us brave,
And for their thousand blows deal one death-blow!
What though before us lies the open grave?
Like men we'll face the murderous, cowardly pack,
Pressed to the wall, dying, but fighting back!

(2 × 15 = 30 Marks)