

**Department of English  
University of Delhi  
Delhi – 110 007**

**MA ENGLISH Semester I of 2018 – IA Topics**

**Contextualise and respond critically in no more than 500 words to any one topic per course for the four courses for which you are registered this semester.**

**SEMESTER I**

**ENG 0101 Poetry from Chaucer to Milton**

A "The holy blisful martir"

B The Monk in the *General Prologue*

C 'Soone as my younglings cryen for the dam,

To her will I offer a milkewhite Lamb:

She is my goddesse plaine,

And I her shepherds swayne,

Albee forswonck and forswatt I am.'

D Mind and Body in Shakespeare's Sonnets

E The problem of time in early modern lyrics

**ENG 0102 Eighteenth Century Literature**

A Significance of the title of Jonathan Swift's *A Tale of the Tub*

B Swift's engagement with the idea of wit in the prescribed text

C Analyse *Tom Jones* in the light of "Plot of Action, Plot of Character and Plot of Thought".

D In *Tom Jones*, "the Characters are indeed great agents of the story." Do you agree. Give reason

E Reflection of corruption through Dryden's *Absalom and Achitophel*

F Dryden's characterisation of Achitophel

**ENG 0103 Literary Criticism-I**

A 'Mimesis' with reference to Book X of the *Republic*

B Plato's conception of democracy, particularly in comparison to his own ideal state

C The immortality of the soul in *The Republic*

D Aristotle's concept of plot in *The Poetics*

E Wordsworth's comments on "poetic diction" in the Preface to the *Lyrical Ballads*

F How does Wordsworth describe the central aim of the poems in the *Lyrical Ballads*, especially as it bears upon the subject matter and the language of the poems?

G Shelley's critique of utilitarianism in "A Defence of Poetry"

H Sidney's Views on Tragedy

I Dr Johnson's views on Shakespeare's Comedies

### **ENG 0104 (i) Seventeenth and Eighteenth-century Drama**

A The socio-political climate of 18th century London as seen in prescribed texts

B *The Beggar 's Opera* and the psychology of criminality

C Jonson's Philosopher's Stone.

D Jonson's theory of comedy.

E Markers of Jacobean drama.

F Subtext in *The Changeling*.

G Man only, created in the likeness of God Himself, is the only creature in the world, that out of the malignity of his own nature and the base fearer that is inseparable from it..."

### **ENG 0104 (ii) Indian Literature I**

A The poetry of Mirabai and the relevance of the Nirgun-Sagun distinction.

B Discuss how Mirabai's poetry straddles the contradictory domains of the spiritual and the profane.

C "My friend, this is the language of Dihlii"

D. Dastanbu

E The concept of wealth in *Silapatikaram*.

F Analyse Bhasa's use of realism in *Swapnavasavadatta*.

### **ENG 0104 (iii) Ancient Greek and Latin texts in translation**

A Virgil's delineation of the epic hero

B Dido

C Thucydides's Agamemnon

D Redefining masculinity in the *Oresteia*.

## **MA ENGLISH Semester III of 2018 – IA Topics**

### **SEMESTER III**

#### **ENG 0301 The Nineteenth Century Novel**

- A The anti-climactic ending of *Huckleberry Finn*
- B The interface between Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn
- C The Grangerfords
- D Jackson's Island
- E Any one aspect of narratology in *Anna Karenina*.
- F Anna's relationship with Dolly
- G Any one of the hunting scenes in *Anna Karenina*.
- H The topicality of *The Red and the Black*.
- I Julien's distinct responses to his love affairs.

#### **ENG 0302 Twentieth-century Poetry and Drama**

- A "For England may keep faith/For all that is done and said."
- B "All I have is a voice/To undo the folded lie"
- C Tiresias in *The Wasteland*.
- D Modernism and history in *The Waste Land*.
- E Portrayal of the protagonist in *The Life of Galileo*
- F Women in Pirandello's *Henry IV*

#### **ENG 0303 Language and Linguistics**

- A Any one of C.F. Hockett's Design Features by citing one case study.
- B How are language variations brought on through dialects? Illustrate with an example from literature or popular culture.
- C. Use of language in advertising
- D. Comparison of phonemes in one's native language and English
- E Articulation disorder (Based on speech mechanism)

F Sexism in the language of politics

### **ENG 0304 (i) American Literature**

A The importance of " The Custom House "

B " The world's law was no law for her mind." What determines the gradual disenchantment of Hester from the structure and substance of New England Puritan ideology?

C "I celebrate myself, and sing myself, / And what I assume you shall assume"

D "If you want me again look for me under your boot-soles"

### **ENG 0304 (ii) New literatures in English**

A "Poppy, you have saved me, you have recovered the earth for me."

B Tomis

C Survival as a core of Canadian literature

D The marginalized identities of Metis

E Coetzee's idea of race relationships in *Disgrace*.

F The house as a metaphor of identity in *A House for Mr Biswas*.

### **ENG 0304 (iii) Literature and the Visual Arts**

A Bryson's use of the story of Zeuxis

B Compare the two versions of Caravaggio's *Supper at Emmaus* (c1600 and 1606 respectively) and analyse the development of his style

C Lorraine's mythic imagination.

D The secular principle in landscape art

E Austen's construction of Mansfield Park as a country house