

4 SEM FYUGP ENGC4B

2026

(May/June)



ENGLISH

(Core)

Paper : ENGC4B

(**British Literature : 19th Century**)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions.*

UNIT—I

**[Literary and Social History (Nineteenth
Century)]**

1. Answer any one of the following questions : 10

- (a) Discuss the impact of the Industrial Revolution on the themes and styles of 19th century literature.

(2)

- (b) Analyze the role and status of women in 19th century Britain as portrayed in literature. How did authors like the Brontë sisters challenge or reinforce societal norms?
- (c) Examine the representation of social class in 19th century British literature. How did various authors portray the relationship between different social classes?
- (d) Examine the impact of Darwin's theory as reflected in Victorian literature.

UNIT—II

(Nineteenth Century Novel)

2. Answer any one of the following questions : 10

- (a) How does Dickens critique the utilitarian philosophy of Thomas Gradgrind in *Hard Times*? What implications does this have for the novel's theme of industrialization and social class?

(3)

- (b) Discuss the symbolism of circus in *Hard Times*. What role does it play in the narrative and what themes does it represent?
- (c) Examine the character of Stephen Blackpool and his significance in the novel. How does his story contribute to Dickens' exploration of social justice and the treatment of the working class?

3. Write a short note on any one of the following :

5

- (a) Symbolic significance of Coketown in *Hard Times*
- (b) The role of Sissy Jupe in *Hard Times*
- (c) The character development of Louisa Gradgrind

UNIT—III

(Victorian Novel)

4. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 10

- (a) Analyze the theme of love vs. independence in *Jane Eyre*. How does Jane's relationship with Mr. Rochester reflect this theme?
- (b) What significance does the character of Bertha Mason hold in the novel? How does she contribute to the plot and themes?
- (c) How does Brontë use the Gothic genre in *Jane Eyre*? What effects do the Gothic elements have on the narrative?

5. Write a short note on any *one* of the following :

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- (a) The Red Room as a symbol
- (b) Nature imagery in *Jane Eyre*

UNIT—IV

(Victorian Poetry)

6. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 10

- (a) On the basis of your study of the prescribed poems, critically analyze Tennyson's exploration of the spirit of adventure and the glory of colonial expansion in his poetry.
- (b) Examine the use of dramatic monologue in Browning's poetry, specifically in *My Last Duchess* and *Fra Lippo Lippi*.
- (c) Analyze the representation of female desire and agency in *Goblin Market*. What commentary does Rossetti's portrayal of Laura's fascination with the goblin men and their fruit offer on societal expectations and restrictions placed on women's desires and bodies?

7. Write a short note on any one of the following :

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(a) The themes of aging and nostalgia in *Ulysses*

(b) Tension between creative expression and societal expectations in Browning's poetry

8. Explain, with reference to the context, any one of the following :

5

(a) I am a part of all that I have met;
Yet all experience is an arch wherethro'
Gleams that untravelled world whose
margin fades
For ever and for ever when I move.

(b) A fine way to paint a soul! You should paint
The soul, —the soul! —the thing that's seen
By the inward eye, —the thing that's felt,
Not this mere outside show of earth and sky,
This flesh and blood, —this gaudy tiring
Of paint and plaster! What, you're shocked?
You think I should have painted angles,
Saints,
And all the blessed company of heaven?

- (c) Eat me, drink me, love me

Laura stretched her gleaming neck—

She sucked and sucked and sucked

the more

Fruits which the goblins offered:

Her fingers charmed and numb,

Her eyes like two sickle moons

She hung out her apron

And clutched the goblin's fruits.

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