

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2017
BRANCH XII - ENGLISH
FIRST SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR CORE
PAPER : POETRY
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION – A

I. Write short notes in about 75 words on the poetic devices used in any four of the following excerpts. (4 x 5 = 20 marks)

1. My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains
My sense, as though of hemlock I had drunk,
Or emptied some dull opiate to the drains
One minute past, and Lethe-wards had sunk:
'Tis not through envy of thy happy lot,
But being too happy in thine happiness,—
That thou, light-winged Dryad of the trees
In some melodious plot
Of beechen green, and shadows numberless,
Singest of summer in full-throated ease.

2. Save that from yonder ivy-mantled tow'r
The moping owl does to the moon complain
Of such, as wand'ring near her secret bow'r,
Molest her ancient solitary reign.

Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield,
Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe as broke;
How jocund did they drive their team afield!
How bow'd the woods beneath their sturdy stroke!

3. O my luvè is like a red, red rose,
That's newly sprung in June;
O my luvè's like the melodie
That's sweetly played in tune.
As fair art thou, my bonnie lass,
So deep in luvè am I;
And I will luvè thee still, my dear,
Till a' the seas gang dry.

4. That's my last Duchess painted on the wall,
Looking as if she were alive, I call
That piece a wonder, now, Fra Pandolf's hands
Worked busily a day, and there she stands.
Will't please you sit and look at her? I said
"Fra Pandolf" by design, for never read

Strangers like you that pictured countenance,
 The depth and passion of its earnest glance,
 But to myself they turned (since none puts by
 The curtain I have drawn for you, but I)

5. Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
 And often is his gold complexion dimmed;
 And every fair from fair sometime declines,
 By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimmed;
 But thy eternal summer shall not fade,

6. She dwells with Beauty - Beauty that must die;
 And joy, whose hand is ever at his lips
 Bidding adieu; and aching Pleasure nigh,
 Turning to poison while the bee mouth sips:
 Ay, in the very temple of delight
 Veil'd Melancholy has her Sovran shrine,
 Though seen of none save him whose strenuous tongue
 Can burst Joy's grape against his palate fine;
 His soul shall taste the sadness of her might,
 And be among her cloudy trophies hung.

SECTION – B

II. Write a short essay in about 200 words on the poetic form and its characteristic features of any four of the following. (4 x 10 =40 marks)

1. Ode to Liberty

The Sun and the serenest Moon sprang forth:
 The burning stars of the abyss were hurled
 Into the depths of Heaven. The daedal earth,
 That island in the ocean of the world,
 Hung in its cloud of all- sustaining air:
 But this divinest universe
 Was yet a chaos and a curse,
 For thou went not: but, power from worst producing worse,
 The spirit of the beasts was kindles there,
 And of the birds, and of the watery forms,
 And there was war among them, and despair
 Within them, raging without truce or terms:
 The bosom of their violated nurse
 Groaned, for beasts warred on beasts, and worms on worms,
 And men on men; each heart was as a hell of storms.

Percy Bysshe Shelley

2. Sonnet 116

Let me not to the marriage of true minds
 Admit impediments, Love is not love

Which alters when it alteration finds,
 Or bends with the remover to remove.
 O no! it is an ever-fixed mark
 That looks on tempests and is never shaken;
 It is the star to every wand'ring bark,
 Whose woth's unknown, although his height be taken.
 Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
 Within his bending sickle's compass come;
 Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
 But bears it out even to the edge of doom.
 If this be error and upon me prov'd,
 I never writ, nor no man ever lov'd.

William Shakespeare

3. **Ulysses**

It little profits that an idle king,
 By this still hearth, among these barren crags,
 Matched with an aged wife, I mete and dole
 Unequal laws unto a savage race,
 That hoard and sleep, and feed, and know not me.
 I cannot rest from travel: I will drink
 Life to the lees: All times I have enjoy'd
 Greatly, have suffer'd greatly, both with those
 That loved me, and alone, on shore and when
 Thro' scudding drifts the rainy Hyades.

Alfred Lord Tennyson

4. **A Christmas Wish**

I'd like a stocking made for a giant,
 And a meeting house full of toys,
 Then I'd go out in a happy hint
 For the poor little girls and boys;
 Up the street and down the street,
 And across and over the town,
 I'd search and find them everyone,
 Before the sun went down.

Eugene Field

5. **The Solitary Reaper**

Behold her, single in the field,
 Yon solitary Highland lass!
 Reaping and singing by herself;
 Stop here, or gently pass!
 Alone she cuts and binds the grain,
 And sings a melancholy strain;
 O listen! for the vale profound
 Is overflowing with the sound

No Nightingale did ever chaunt
 More welcome notes to weary bands
 Of travelers in some shady haunt,

Among Arabian sands:
 A voice so thrilling ne'er was heard
 In spring-time from the Cuckoo-bird,
 Breaking the silence of the seas
 Among the farthest Hebrides

William Wordsworth

6. To my Enemy

Let those who will of friendship sing,
 And to its guerdon grateful be,
 But I a lyric garland bring
 To Crown thee, O, mine enemy!

Thanks, endless thanks, to thee I owe
 For that my lifelong journey through
 Thine honest hate has done for me
 What love perchance had failed to do.

I had not scaled such weary heights
 But that I held thy scorn in fear,
 And never keenest lure might match
 The subtle goading of thy sneer

Thine anger struck from me a fire
 That purged all dull Content away,
 Our mortal strife to me has been
 Unflagging spur from day to day.

And thus, while all the world may land
 The gifts of love and loyalty,
 I lay my meed of gratitude
 Before thy feet, mine enemy!

Lucy Maud Montgomery

SECTION – C

III. Write an essay in about 500 words each on any two of the following.

(2 x 20 = 40 marks)

1. Examine the poem "A Far Cry from Africa" in the context of postcolonialism.
2. Evaluate "The Phenomenal Woman" by Maya Angelou from a feminist perspective.
3. "Preludes" is an impressionistic and a literal exploration with a spiritual hue. Discuss the statement with reference to the poem.
4. How does Allen Curnow embody the aesthetics of alienation and displacement in his poem "House and Land?"
