

MA Semester I

2021

English

CC I

British Literature from Geoffrey Chaucer to the Beginning of English Civil War

Full Marks: 40

Time: 2 Hours

**PLEASE READ EACH OF THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS
CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU START WRITING:**

- Write the **name of the examination, examination roll number, registration number, course name** and the **total number of pages submitted** in the **front page** of the answer script (in the **template** already provided).
- Leave a **one inch margin** on the **left** and on **top** of each page before starting to write the examination.
- Put **page number** on **top right** of each page.
- Students should write **legibly** their answers preferably on **A4 size sheets**, scan them and send the entire answer script as **one PDF file**.
- The scanned answer scripts should have **enough clarity** to enable evaluation.
- Of the questions attempted, the answers to only the first required number of questions (as instructed in the question paper) will be evaluated. So **please do not attempt extra questions**.
- **Word limit** in questions, wherever specified, should be **strictly adhered to**.
- **No multiple submissions** of answer scripts will be allowed.
- **Avoid** discussion with anyone else; it may **reduce** your marks if **similarities** are found in answers.
- **Plagiarism** related to any **online/offline** source(s) will be **strictly dealt with**.

LONG AND SHORT ANSWER SHOULD NOT BE ATTEMPTED FROM THE SAME SUBUNIT/TEXT.

Unit I

1. Answer any **one** of the following questions (750 words): 15 x 1= 15

- a) Do you think that the pilgrim-narrator's use of apparently uncritical details presents a true picture of medieval English society? Explain, with reference to any two portraits from *The General Prologue to the Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer.
- b) Critically distinguish between the Redcross knight's visit to the House of Pride and his visit to the House of Holiness in *The Faerie Queene* Book I.
- c) Examine the way in which Marvell perceives nature in his poems 'On a Drop of Dew' and 'The Garden'.

2. Answer any **one** of the following questions (250 words): 5 x 1= 5

- a) "But what that God forwoot moot nedes bee." -- State, in brief, how the Nun's Priest depicts the problem of divine foreknowledge and free will with reference to Chauncicleer's capture by the fox.
- b) Briefly comment on the Orgoglio episode in *The Faerie Queene* Book I.
- c) Comment on Donne's use of rhetorical questions in the second stanza of 'The Canonization'.

Unit II

3. Answer any **one** of the following questions (750 words): 15 x 1= 15

- a) Critically comment on the background and the dialogic nature of Thomas More's *Utopia*.
- b) Bacon's use of the aphoristic style is a dynamic approach to learning. Comment on this view with detailed references from any three of Bacon's essays prescribed in your syllabus.
- c) Critically comment on Milton's plan of humanistic education in 'Of Education'.

4. Answer any **one** of the following questions (250 words): 5 x 1= 5

- a) Briefly comment on the Utopian's attitude towards religion, as narrated by Raphael Hythloday.
- b) "There is Use also of Ambitious Men, in pulling downe the Greatnesse, of any Subject that over-tops" - Locate and Explain.
- c) Write a brief note on the structure of 'Areopagitica'.