



LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – ENGLISH LITERATURE

FIFTH SEMESTER – NOVEMBER 2017

EL 5501 – CONTEMPORARY BRITISH LITERATURE

Date: 02-11-2017

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

Time: 09:00-12:00

SECTION-A

I. Answer the following questions in not more than 30m words each: 10x2=20 Marks

1. It made the most intimate of human relations that of marriage, one of master and slave, instead of one between equal partners.
What, according to Russell, has affected the institution of marriage? In what way has it affected?
2. Comment on the figure of speech employed in the following lines
And as the tightened brakes took hold, there swelled
A sense of falling, like an arrow- shower
Sent out of sight, somewhere becoming rain.
3. Terrifying are the attent sleek thrushes on the lawn,
More coiled steel than living - a poised
Dark deadly eye, those delicate legs.
What kind of picture does the poet paint about thrushes? Explain.
4. What does “Archie” represent in the play ‘Jumpers’ in contrast to George?
5. “The National Gallery is a monument to irrationality! Every concert hall is a monument to irrationality! ... Who is the speaker here? What is his contention?
6. The Maker of the stars and sea
Become a Child on earth for me ?- Trace the significance of these lines.
7. Mention the various themes of the poem ‘Your Attention Please’
8. Explain: “Men manufacture both machine and soul”
9. And tell me they were 'sorry for my trouble'.
Whispers informed strangers I was the eldest,
Away at school, as my mother held my hand – Whose trouble is referred to here? Comment.
10. Can Barclay be labeled as a ‘liberal evangelist’? Why/why not?

SECTION-B

II. Answer any FIVE of the following in 150 words each: (5x8=40 Marks)

11. Critically comment on how the jaguar typifies freedom even in captivity.
12. Critically analyse the tone of the poem 'Song of the dying Gunner'
13. Discuss "I believe in God" as a religious treatise.
14. Comment on Pinter's theatrical style with special reference to the play 'the Care taker'
15. Discuss the allusions in *Endgame*—especially those to the Bible and Dante. How do these add to the themes of the play?
16. How do you come to think of Miss Brodie? Is she a noble figure or a tragic one? Adduce evidence.
17. "Iris Murdoch is reacting against the prevailing philosophic tendencies in Britain during her time"- substantiate the statement with special reference to 'The Bell'
18. R.S.Thomas's poems are an embodiment of Robert Frost's dictum: You can't be universal without being provincial-elucidate.

SECTION-C

III. Answer the following in 400 words each: (2x20=40 Marks)

19. a) "The major theme of Ted Hughes' poetry is the question of human existence, man's relation with the universe, with the natural world, and with his own inner self"- Explain the statement with reference to the two prescribed poems of Ted Hughes.

OR

- b) Comment on how Bertrand Russell contends that ideas can cause harm and inflict great pain.
20. a) Critically comment how the play 'Jumpers' satirizes the field of academic philosophy.

OR

- b) How are the characters in 'Lord of the Flies' presented as both "heroic and sick"?
