



'समानो मन्त्रः समितिः समानी'

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL
B.A. Honours 2nd Semester Examination, 2022

CC4-ENGLISH

BRITISH LITERATURE: OLD ENGLISH PERIOD TO 14TH CENTURY

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

1. Answer any *two* questions from the following: 15×2 = 30
 - (a) Provide a critical description of Old English religious poetry.
 - (b) “The heroic idiom is the main, and perhaps the only, marker of quality in Old English poetry”— Do you agree? Give reasons.
 - (c) Attempt a brief survey of Middle English Alliterative poetry.
 - (d) How did Alfred and Aelfric contribute to the development of Old English prose?
 - (e) Give an account of the rise of drama in Medieval England.

2. Answer any *two* questions from the following: 15×2 = 30
 - (a) Analyse the character and role of Grendel in *Beowulf*.
 - (b) Critically examine the major symbols in *Beowulf*.
 - (c) Is *Beowulf* an epic? Give a well reasoned answer.
 - (d) Would you consider the Wife of Bath a rebel? Argue your answer.
 - (e) Bring out the elements of realism in the ‘General Prologue’ to *The Canterbury Tales*.
 - (f) What is the theme and purpose of the ‘General Prologue’ to *The Canterbury Tales*?

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