

Annai vailankanni Arts and Science College,Thanjavur  
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QUESTION BANK

**CLASS: I MA ENGLISH**

**TITLE OF THE PAPER: MODERN LITRATURE-I-  
(1400-1660)**

**SUB CODE:P16EN11**

**UNIT I:**

**2 MARKS**

**1. What kind of man the Oxford Scholar was?**

The oxford scholar was a scholar. He was not materialistic. He was not a worldly-minded like other ecclesiastical characters. He had studied logic long ago. He did not believe in gaudy living. He had little liking for rich clothes. He was not able to obtain a paid job in a church. Even he was worldly enough to seek a job.

**2. How did the Oxford Scholar look?**

The Oxford scholar was not fat. He always looked hollow-cheeked and sober. His outer cloak was entirely worn out.

**3. What did the Oxford Scholar have at his bed head?**

At his bed's head the Oxford scholar would have rather twenty books of Aristotle and his philosophy bound in black and red than acquire rich garments or a fiddle or a gay harp.

**4. How did the oxford scholar speak?**

The Oxford Scholar did not speak even a word more than was necessary. What little he spoke was spoken in a most appropriate and modest manner. He spoke briefly and animatedly. What he spoke was pregnant with noble thoughts. His speech was eloquent with moral virtue.

**5. Describe the Greek Mythology behind Gorgons and Medusa.**

In Greek mythology , Medusawas one of the three ugly female monsters. The Gorgons were portrayed with ugly female monsters.The Gorgons were portrayed with ugly faces, glaring eyes, and serpents in their hair and girdles. The onlookers of Medusa were turned to stone. She was killed by Perseus

**6. What does Barnaby mean?**

St.Barnaba's day falls on 11<sup>th</sup> June.It is the longest day according to the old style calendar. There is about ten days of difference from the new style calendar.

**7. What does 24 stanzas in 'Epithalamion' represent?**

The poem 'Epithalamion' has twenty four stanzas corresponding to the twenty-four hours of the day. Every hour is celebrated as it brings him nearer his beloved.

**8. How does the poet expect the nymphs of Mulla to appear before his lady-love? Why?**

The poet expects the nymphs of Mulla to bind up any their loose hair and look up their in the crystal clear waters which make their mirrors. So that when they cue to his love, she may not find any blemish on their faces.

**9. What does the poet pray to the Sun God? Why?**

The poet prays to the Sun god to show up its favorable ray. Let not its life giving heat be very hot. Then the beloved's bright face will be tarnished and her beauty will be disgraced.

**10. What are the musical instruments played, when the poet-bridegroom comes?**

When the poet-bridegroom comes the minstrels begin to produce musical notes. Their merry music resounds from a far. The pipe, the tabor, and the trembling violin, all agree in tuning without any breach or harsh note. But, most of fall, the ladies feel pleasure when they strike their timbrels.

**5 MARKS**

1. What makes the pardoner so offensive?
2. How did Chaucer view the Oxford Cleric?
3. Describe the "scholar from Oxford".
4. How does the poet wake up the bride?
5. How does Spencer request the goddess of poetry to help him in writing a song in praise of his beloved?

**10 MARKS**

**1. Epithalamion is the essence of Spenser's art-discuss**

Introduction

Lyrical form

Diction

Versification  
Theme of the poem  
His Pictorial Art  
Music and Melody  
Conclusion

## **2. Epithalamion is a mixture of Mythology and Realism**

Introduction  
Realism in the poem  
Depiction of personal feelings of the poet  
Invocation to the muses  
Nymphs  
Marriage services  
Mythology in the poem  
Classical mythology  
Conclusion

## **3."Chaucer's Prologue is a colourful portrait"-Discuss**

Introduction  
Theme  
Characterization  
The old tradition of chivalry  
The church and religious life  
Varied section of contemporary society  
Oxford scholar  
Conclusion

## **Unit-II**

### **2 MARKS**

#### **1. How do the two bloods of the beloved and the lover mix up?**

The flea sucked the poet's blood first. Now it sucks his beloved's blood. By this action of the flea, the two bloods are mixed up.

#### **2. Who is the speaker and who is the listener in the poem?**

The poet-lover is the speaker and the beloved is the silent listener, in the poem.

#### **3. Describe Marvell's concept of three types of souls.**

Marvell refers to the concept of three souls –vegetative, sensitive and rational.It we believed that vegetable life possesses souls representing simple growth and reproduction.It is the lowest. Animals have the capacity to feel. They are sensitive. Human souls add rationality.

#### **4. Mention the few images of life mentioned in the poem.**

The images of life mentioned in the poem are 'youthful hue, morning dew, willing soul, instant fires' and so on.

#### **5 .Explain the term 'Syllogism' with respect to the poem 'To his coy mistress'**

The poem ' To his coy mistress' is written in the form of syllogism. It means an argument developed in a strictly logical form and leading in a definite conclusion. In a syllogism there are three stages. Marvell builds the poem in three phases, each representing a step in the argument: first the supposition, then the necessity to reject it and lastly the consequence of rejecting it.

#### **6. What are the various blessings, the box or glass which God had?**

First strength came out of the glass to make a way for the others to follow. Then beauty came out followed by wisdom, honor and pleasure. Only one blessing now remained in the glass at its bottom. It was rest.

#### **7. Why does the soul of a man cannot walk steadily?**

The soul of a man is regarded as being so drunk with its prolonged stay on earth cannot walk steadily backwards to heaven but staggers on the way like a drunkard.

#### **8. How could Vaughan see God during his childhood days?**

During his childhood, all his thoughts were of heaven. He had travelled a short distance of a mile or two from that place and from God, his first love. At that time, he could still look backwards over that short distance he had travelled and catch a glimpse of God's bright face.

#### **9. What would happen if God had bestowed the last gift, rest, on man?**

If He had been to bestow that last gift, rest, on man, he would attach more importance to those gifts instead of Him, the

Creator. Man would feel satisfied with what he finds in nature and he will have no urge to seek God, the creator of Nature. If that happens, not only God but also man be a loser.

**10. What do you say Herbert's poem 'The Pully' is an Emblem poem?**

This poem 'The Pully' is one of the emblem poems of Herbert. Herbert has used the word 'rest' is used as a noun to mean the absence of any work or exertion. In line 14, the word has used as a verb to mean 'feel satisfied' or 'feel contented' or 'feel easy'. In line 16 'rest' means 'the remaining' and in line 17, the word 'restlessness' contains a repetition of 'rest'.

**5 Marks**

1. Describe Marvell's concept of souls`
2. What are the humorous elements in Marvell's poems?
3. Describe the influence of Herbert on the poems of Vaughan.
4. What are the views of Vaughan on 'childhood'?
5. How does the argument of 'The Flea' change in the third and final stanza?

**10 MARKS**

**1. Give an analysis of 'The Flea' by John Donne.**

Introduction

Theme of the poem

'The Flea' is a lyric

Imagery

Contemplative and whimsical

Enjoyable and unusual poem

Conclusion

**2. Critically examine the theme of love as exemplified in the poetry of Andrew Marvell.**

Introduction

Theme of the poem

Syllogism

Marvell 's concept of three types of souls

Human love and divine love

Passion of love

Few images of life

Conclusion

**3. Give a detailed summary of George Herbert's The Pully.**

Introduction

Creation of Man

God, the Almighty

Theme of 'Rest'

The conceit

Role of Pully

Conclusion

**4. Write a critical appreciation of Henry Vaughan's 'The Retreat'.**

Introduction

A deep religious poem

A metaphysical poem

Glorification of the childhood

Poet's desire to Retreat

The Salvation

Conclusion

**Unit-III**

**2 MARKS**

**1. What does Bacon say about lie?**

Lies are always in favor of men. Human beings are always attracted by lies. Lies told by poets in their poetry are a source of pleasure. Lies told by traders bring them financial gain.

**2. How does Bacon compare truth with lie?**

Truth is like the clear day-light. The shows and the spectacles presented on the stage appear what they are in the day-light. Lies are like candle-lights. In the candle-lights the same shows and spectacles appear more attractive.

**3. Who have a pleasing effect?**

False opinions, false hopes and false judgments have a pleasing effect.

**4. What does Montaigne say about a lie?**

Montaigne says that in telling a lie, a man was brave towards God but a coward towards his fellow-men.

**5. Who are stoics?**

The Greek philosophers who believed in torturing the body as a process of self purification are stoics.

**6. What is the wages of sin?**

The wages of sin is death. The Bible tells us that death was imposed as a penalty upon mankind for the sins of Adam and Eve for disobeying God.

**7. What does Shakespeare say about death?**

In 'Julius Caesar', Shakespeare says that it is stranger to see men fear over death which is a necessary end and will come when it will come.

**8. What do Seneca say about prosperity and adversity?**

The Roman Philosopher Seneca said that the blessings of prosperity are desirable

But the blessings of adversity are admirable.

**9. What is the chief virtue of a human being in prosperity and in adversity?**

The chief virtue of a human being in prosperity is moderation. The chief virtue of human being in adversity is the courage to face hardships.

**10. How do you say that adversity is a greater blessing than prosperity?**

In adverse circumstances a man learns the lesson of hard work and honesty and shows his inner strength and powers of endurance. In this way adversity is a greater blessing than prosperity.

**5 MARKS**

1. What you mean by the essay "Of Truth" by Francis Bacon?
2. In Francis Bacon's "Of Truth", why did Bacon say that truth may come to the price of a pearl instead of a diamond?
3. What are the examples Bacon give to show that strong men die without the fear of death?
4. How does Bacon say that there are many human passions which are stronger than the fear of death?
5. What are the examples do Bacon give to show that the inherent strength of a man reveal when he is in adversity?

**10 MARKS**

**1. Write a critical appreciation of Francis Bacon's essay of "Of Truth"**

- Introduction
- Bacon's philosophy
- Bacon's style
- Brevity
- Quotations
- Concept of 'of Truth'
- Lies
- The Search for truth
- Faith in God
- Power of Truth
- Conclusion

**2. Write a critical appreciation of Bacon's essay 'Of Death'.**

- Introduction
- Fear of Death
- Strong minded people
- Stoics
- Death Philosophy
- Doubts about death
- Bacon's fondness for allusions
- Bacon's Style
- Conclusion

**3. What are Francis main arguments in his essay "Of Adversity"**

- Introduction
- Bacon's style
- Human being's weakness
- Working miracles
- Myth
- Chief Virtue
- The Old Testament
- The New Testament
- Bacon's fondness for allusions
- Quotes from ancient authors
- Conclusion.

#### **4. Write an essay on teachings of Christ according to Mathew.**

Introduction  
Blessedness  
The fulfillment  
Murder  
Adultery  
Divorce  
Oaths  
Eye for Eye  
Love for enemies  
Giving to the Needy  
Prayer  
Fasting  
Treasures in Heaven  
Do not worry  
Judging others  
Ask, Seek Knock  
True and False prophets  
The wise and foolish builders.  
Conclusion

#### **UNIT-IV**

#### **2 MARKS**

##### **1. What news the couple of Jews convey to Barbas?**

The couple of Jews convey the news that the Trucks have come to demand a tribute under an agreement with the Governor. He also informs that the governor has summoned all the Jews.

##### **2. What does Frenze tell to the three Jews?**

Frenze tells the three Jews that the government has no fund to pay the Trucks, as they have been constantly at war. So he asks the Jews to part with their wealth. He tells them that they have amassed their wealth in Malta and they must contribute to maintain peace. It has been decided to confiscate half of the wealth of the Jews and the Jew who refuses to pay must become a Christian and the one who resists this order will lose all his wealth.

##### **3. How does Frenze treat the Trucks after the expiry of a month?**

When the period of one month expires, the Truck claims their tribute from the Governor. Frenze tells that he wants to pay the tribute in gold but no gold minerals are in Malta and they are found only on West Indies. He is prepared to fight with the Trucks because Bosco has promised him all help.

##### **4. How does Cornelia scold Flamineo?**

Cornelia scolds Flamineo for his sister's pimp. She tells him that because of his poverty he should not advance his prospects in life by prostitute his sister. She says that it is a misery of miseries.

##### **5. How does Isabella react to Brachiano's cold treatment?**

Isabella is not willing to create any further rift between them. She offers to take all the blame for the termination of their relationship upon herself. She tells Francisco that her own jealousy has driven her to terminate her marriage with Brachiano. She is shielding her husband to avoid any bloodshed.

##### **6. What is Isabella's reaction against Vittoria?**

Isabella has a deep desire for revenge against Vittoria. She would like to cut off Vittoria's nose and lips, pull out her teeth and torture her in all possible way.

##### **7. Why does Francisco desire to send Camillo away from Rome?**

Francisco desires the idea of sending Camillo away from Rome. In his absence, Brachiano will frequent his visit to Vittoria and earn a bad name for himself. His illicit love affair will lead to scandal and undermine his authority.

##### **8. Describe the content of Brachiano's will.**

By his will, Brachiano has entrusted Vittoria with the charge of his estate and the Custodian of his property till the Prince Giovanni comes of age.

##### **9. Describe the two dumb shows.**

In the first dumb show, Isabella dies after kissing a poisoned portrait of Brachiano in her bed chamber. She has the habit of kissing her husband's portrait before going to bed. In the second

dumb show Brachiano witness Camillo is falling down and break his neck from a vaulting horse.

**10. What dream does Vittoria relate to Brachiano?**

Vittoria relates to Brachiano the dream she had the previous night. In the dream, Camillo and Brachiano's wife Isabella came to a yew tree under which Vittoria was sitting. They wanted to bury Vittoria alive for her illicit relationship with Brachiano but she was saved by a sudden whirlwind which brought down the yew tree and struck both of them dead.

**5 MARKS**

1. How does Barbas bring about the fatal duel between Lodowick and Mathias? What are his intentions behind the move?
2. Why does play the friars Giacomo and Barnadine against each other? Does he succeed?
3. Describe how Bellamira entices Ithamore through Pilia-Borza and makes him betray the Jew.
4. Bring out the dramatic significance of the trial scene in the play, 'The White Devil'.
5. Comment on the character Zanche.

**10 MARKS**

**1. Write an essay on various themes in 'The Jew of Malta'.**

Introduction

Theme

Appearance and reality

Betrayal

Greed

Moral corruption

Prejudice

Conclusion

**2. Critical analysis of the play 'The Jew of Malta'**

Introduction

Theme

Characterization

Genre

Plot

Setting

6

The elements of anti-sentimentalism in the play

Conclusion

**3. Consider the play 'The White Devil' as a revenge tragedy.**

Introduction

Meaning of 'The White Devil'

Vittoria's Characteristics

Illicit love affair

Devilish nature

The White Devil as a revenge tragedy

Plot of 'The White Devil'

Element of Pathos

Style and imagery

Pessimism

Conclusion

**UNIT-V**

**2 MARKS**

**1. How Andrea was killed in the war?**

Andrea was outnumbered by Balthazar's horsemen, thrown from his horse, and then quickly finished off by Balthazar.

**2. What are the main themes of Revenge play?**

The social problems of personal honour, the survival of feudal lawlessness, the political problem of tyranny and resistance, and the supreme question of providence with its provocative contrast between human vengeance and divine are the main themes of revenge play.

**3. What is soliloquy? Why they are used in dramas?**

Soliloquy means talking to oneself. It reveals the inner working of an actor's mind. Emotions and sentiments that are not susceptible to stage-acting are best expressed through the medium of soliloquies.

**4. What is melodrama?**

A melodrama is a drama marked by crude appeals to emotion, poetic justice and happy ending. A melodrama means melody and drama i.e., a piece of declaration musically rendered. At one time it was synonymous with opera. A melodrama leaves

on the mind of spectators an impression of exaggeration and improbability.

**5. How does Machiavelli define man?**

Machiavelli defines man as a selfish animal ruled by the insatiable desire for material gain. He is also driven by the principle of self-interest. He is not to be trusted until his trust is based upon fear rather than love. He is easily fooled and deceived by appearances.

**6. What are the various punishments given to the souls in the underworld?**

Furies employ their steel-whips to avenge crime and poor unlucky Ixion is doomed to torture on a tread mill. Souls of persons having inordinate love of gold are punished by choking their throats with melting gold, lustful persons are enraptured by snakes, murderers groan with ceaseless painful wounds, liars are beaten with hot leaden bars and all foul sinners are tormented.

**7. Who is Cyprian, the Duke?**

Cyprian, The Duke of Castle is the brother of the Spanish King. Naturally he is proud of his royal blood.

**8. Write a note on Stephen.**

Stephen, the cousin of young kno'well, is a country fool. He is new to town. He wastes his money and time on hawking and hunting. So, his uncle, old kno'well, advises him not to waste his money and time on such trifling matters as hawking.

**9. Who are the female characters in the play 'Every man in his humour'?**

The female characters play only a small role in the play. Dame Kitely, Mistress Bridget and Tib are the three female characters in the play.

**10. How did Hieronimo believe the letter of Bellimperia?**

Pedringano was to be hanged by Lorenzo's cunning plan. He wrote a letter to Hieronimo revealing the truth asking him to save him from death.

**5 MARKS**

1. Sketch the character of Balthazar.
2. Write a note on Lorenzo.

3. Bringout the elements of melodrama in 'The Spanish Tragedy'.

4. Comment on the last scene of the play, 'Every Man in his Humour'.

5. Bringout the significance of the prologue in 'Every Man in his Humour'.

**10 MARKS**

**1. Discuss Hieronimo as a Machiavellian in 'The Spanish tragedy'**

Introduction

Theme

Characterization

His love for his son

Thirst for revenge

His madness

Hieronimo & Hamlet

Conclusion

**2. Write a plot construction in 'Every man in his humour'.**

Introduction

Theme

Plots

Characterization

A comedy of Characters

A Comedy of Intrigue

The Unity of action not fully achieved

Conclusion.

