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TRINITY TERM 2005

SECOND PUBLIC EXAMINATION

HONOUR SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE 2005 COURSE I AND COURSE II PAPER 4 AND B8 ENGLISH LITERATURE FROM 1509 TO 1642

HONOUR SCHOOL OF ENGLISH AND MODERN LANGUAGES 2005 PART 1, PAPER 6(ii) AND 7(ii) ENGLISH LITERATURE FROM 1509 TO 1642

HONOUR SCHOOL OF CLASSICS AND ENGLISH 2005 PART A, PAPER 1(b) ENGLISH LITERATURE FROM 1509 TO 1642

HONOUR SCHOOL OF MODERN HISTORY AND ENGLISH 2005 PAPER (iv) AND (v) ENGLISH LITERATURE FROM 1509 TO 1642

> Friday, 20 May, 9.30 am to 12.30 pm 2005 Time allowed – Three hours

Answer three questions. You should pay careful attention in your answers to the precise terms of the quotations and questions. Course II candidates are reminded that they must not duplicate work used on Paper A2. You may not write answers exclusively or primarily on Shakespeare in this paper.

Do not turn over until told that you may do so

Answer three questions. You should pay careful attention in your answers to the precise terms of the quotations and questions. Course II candidates are reminded that they must not duplicate work used on Paper A2. You may not write answers exclusively or primarily on Shakespeare in this paper.

1. The gyse now a dayes
Of some janglynge jayes
Is to discommende
That they cannot amend
Though they wold spend
All the wyttes they have.

(SKELTON)

In your reading of the satire of the period, what is more important: to 'amend' or 'to discommende'?

2. 'If I should propose to any king wholesome decrees, doing my endeavour to pluck out of his mind the pernicious original causes of vice and naughtiness, think you not that I should forthwith either be driven away or else made a laughing-stock?' (MORE)

Discuss the successes and perils of literary advice to princes in at least TWO authors.

3. Quhair I wes wont to se hir go
Rycht trymly passand to and fo
With cumly smylis quhen that I met hir
And now I leif in pane and wo
And brekis my hart and nocht the bettir

(ALEXANDER SCOTT)

EITHER a) make a case for the importance of Scottish literary achievement in the period, OR b) discuss the lyric representation of lovers' 'wo' by any TWO OR MORE authors.

4. W. resteth here, that quick could never rest:
Whose heavenly giftes encreased by disdayn,
And vertue sank the deper in his brest.
Such profit he by envy could obtain.

(SURREY)

Discuss the importance of the dead to the literary culture of the period.

5. 'For take a waye preaching, and take a way salvacion. I told you of *Scala coeli* [the ladder to heaven] and I made it a preaching matter, not a massyng matter. Christ is the preacher of all preachers, the patrone and the exemplar, that all preachers oughte to followe.' (LATIMER)

EITHER a) make a case for the literary importance of the sermon, OR b) explain the significance of the Reformation in your understanding of the literature of the period.

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6. 'Such are thought apt words that properly agree unto that thing which they signify, and plainly express the nature of the same.' (THOMAS WILSON)

What relationship do you find between words and things in the work of TWO OR MORE authors from the period?

7. 'For that manner of a lie is tolerable, which profiteth the invention and hurteth not the hearer.' (HELIODORUS *trans.* UNDERDOWNE)

Discuss EITHER a) the importance of translation in the period OR b) the 'profit' of 'lies' and 'invention' in the literature of the period.

8. "Alas," said he, "how shall I believe mine eyes any more?" (SIDNEY)

Discuss the representation of the senses in the work of TWO or more authors of the period.

9. His warlike armes, the idle instruments
Of sleeping praise, were hong upon a tree,
And his brave shield, full of old moniments,
Was fowly ras't, that none the signes might see

(SPENSER)

How do any of the key terms in this quotation (such as, but not necessarily limited to, 'armes', 'praise', 'moniments', 'signes') capture essential concerns in Spenser's work?

10. Complaints and praises everie one can write,
And passion-out their pangs in statelie rimes,
But of loves pleasures none did ever write
That hath succeeded in these latter times.

(NASHE)

Do you agree? Discuss with reference to TWO OR MORE authors.

11. 'I am supposed to have many studies, but most philosophical. I must yield this to be true: that I suppose few (that be no professors) have read more. And I need not tell you that I am so simple that I understand not, nor so forgetful that I remember not.' (ELIZABETH I)

How important were women of letters to the literary culture of the period?

12. 'Renaissance: rebirth. That is an audacious claim to make for any period of literary history; but it can be justified.'

Make your own case for OR against this claim for the period covered by this paper.

13. 'The true "actors" in lyric are words, not "dramatic persons"; and the drama of any lyric is constituted by the successive entrances of new sets of words, or new stylistic arrangements . . .' (HELEN VENDLER). Discuss.

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14. I thought, if I could draw my pains
Through rhyme's vexation, I should them allay.
(DONNE)

What 'vexation' of verse do you find in Donne?

15. 'Take a flat Map, a Globe *in plano*, and here is East, and there is West, as far asunder as two points can be put: but reduce this flat Map to a roundnesse, which is the true form, and then East and West touch one another, and are all one: So consider mans life aright, to be a Circle . . . in this, the circle, the two points meet, the womb and the grave are but one point, they make but one station, there is but a step from that to this.' (DONNE)

Discuss EITHER a) the use of metaphor in the prose of the period, OR b) the significance of travel and exploration to the period's literary imagination. Discuss at least TWO authors in your answer.

16. That which creates a happy life
Is substance left, not gained by strife;
A fertile and a thankful mould,
A chimney always free from cold;
Never to be the client, nor
But seldom times the counsellor.

(MARTIAL, trans. FANE)

Discuss EITHER a) the 'happy life' OR b) the importance of Classical poetry in the literature of the period.

17. ... Is there in truth no beauty?

(HERBERT)

Discuss the importance of this question with reference to Herbert, or any other author(s) of the period.

18. 'But the Divell as hee affecteth Deitie, and seeketh to have all the complements of Divine honor applied to his service, so hath he among the rest possessed also most Poets with his idle fansies.' (SOUTHWELL)

EITHER a) discuss the significance of Roman Catholic contributions to the literary culture of the period, OR b) do you think that the greatest literary achievements of the period in fact qualify as the 'devil's work'?

They [philosophers] with cold precepts -- perhaps seldom read -- Deliver what an honorable thing
The active virtue is; but does that fire
The blood, or swell the veins with emulations,
To be both good and great, equal to that
Which is presented on our theatres? (MASSINGER)

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What answer would you give to this question? Discuss the work of at least TWO dramatists from the period.

20. 'If we present a tragedy, we include the fatal and abortive ends of such as commit notorious murders, which is aggravated and acted with all the art that may be, to terrify men from the like abhorred practices.' (HEYWOOD)

How do tragedians (actors AND/OR playwrights) of the period 'aggravate' violence with 'art'?

21. 'Much comedy is festive -- all comedy, if the word festive is pressed far enough.' (C. L. BARBER)

How far would you press the word 'festive' in your assessment of the comedy written for the early modern stage? Discuss works by at least TWO authors.

22. 'To what extent does genre influence the expression of erotic desire and anxiety?' (VALERIE TRAUB)

Answer this question with reference to at least TWO authors.

23. 'Tragedy openeth the greatest wounds and showeth forth the ulcers that are covered with tissue.' (SIDNEY)

Discuss tragedy and the body in the works of at least TWO authors.

24. We do all ill things.

They do 'em worst that love 'em, and dwell there, Till the plague comes. The few that have the seeds Of goodness left will sooner make their way To a true life by shame, than punishment.

(JONSON)

Discuss punishment in the comedy of the period with reference to at least TWO dramatists.

25. 'These things are but toys, to come amongst such serious observations.' (BACON, 'Of Masques and Triumphs')

Do you agree?

26. 'The scene changes, presenting Ludlow Town and the President's Castle' (MILTON)

Discuss EITHER a) the importance of geographical place in the literature of the period; OR b) the importance of patrons to literary production in the period.

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