



‘समानो मन्त्रः समितिः समानी’

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

B.A. Honours 2nd Semester Examination, 2024

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 **one** of the following questions: 15×1 = 15
 - (a) Write an essay on Old English Heroic poetry.
 - (b) Discuss the development of Old English prose with special reference to King Alfred.
 - (c) Attempt a brief survey of Middle English Alliterative poetry.

2. Answer any **three** of the following questions: 10×3 = 30
 - (a) Critically analyse the character and role of Grendel in *Beowulf*.
 - (b) Comment on the major symbols in *Beowulf*.
 - (c) Attempt an analysis of the character and role of Piers the Ploughman.
 - (d) Critically examine *Piers the Ploughman* as a theological poem.
 - (e) Write an essay on the characterization of the Wife of Bath.
 - (f) Bring out the elements of realism in the “General Prologue” to the *Canterbury Tales*.

3. Answer any **three** of the following questions: 5×3 = 15
 - (a) Describe the sword of Hrothgar.
 - (b) Comment on the opening of *Beowulf*.
 - (c) Describe the seven deadly sins in *Piers the Ploughman*.
 - (d) How many quests are there in *Piers the Ploughman* and who embarks on them?
 - (e) What is the Wife of Bath’s “philosophy” of marriage?
 - (f) Comment on the opening of the “General Prologue” to the *Canterbury Tales*.

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