

**Rani Rashmoni Green University**

**English (M.A)**

**Semester- I (2024)**

**Core Course 1 – Middle English and Elizabethan Literature**

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.  
Candidates are required  
to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.*

**[Time: 2 hours]**

**[Full Marks -40]**

1. Answer **any two** of the following questions:

10×2=20

- a) Critically discuss *The Spanish Tragedy* as an Elizabethan Revenge Tragedy.
- b) “A cross-section of English life in the fourteenth century”. Is this an adequate summing up of Chaucer’s *The Prologue*? Discuss.
- c) Discuss any three of Bacon’s essays (as prescribed in your syllabus) with reference to their conciseness, their pertinence, their practical suggestiveness, and their vivacity.
- d) William Shakespeare’s *My mistress eyes are nothing like the sun*; (Sonnet 130) is anti-Petrarchan. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
- e) Time is a big contender of both the human and the natural world. Do you agree? i) Explain with suitable examples from William Shakespeare’s *Devouring time, blunt thou the lion paws*; (Sonnet 19).
- f) Examine critically "Everyman" as a morality play.

2. Answer **any four** of the following questions:

5×4=20

- a) Comment on the significance of the Opening Scene in *The Spanish Tragedy*.
  - b) Critically comment on the significance of suicide committed by Bel-Imperia and Hieronimo.
  - (c) Write a short note on the significance of letters in the play.
  - d) Why is the Wife of Bath on the pilgrimage in the *Prologue of the Canterbury Tales*?
  - e) Why does Bacon consider 'superstition' to be a major obstacle to scientific progress in his essay *Of Superstition*?
  - f) How are the themes of transience and ruin evoked through the imagery in William Shakespeare's, *Not marble, nor the gilded monuments (Sonnet 55)* ?
  - g) Comment on the art of characterization in "Everyman".
  - h) Critically analyse "Everyman" as an allegory.
-