

Register Number:

Date:

**ST. JOSEPH’S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BENGALURU - 27**

**PG IV SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS: JULY 2022**

**EN 0118 - English British Literature IV**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**Please keep to the suggested word limits**

**You may use a dictionary**

**Please proof-read your work**

1. **Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 200-250 words: (15 marks)**
2. Which of the four themes covered by the British Literature syllabus this semester—namely Britishness, Modernism, Post-War Poetry/Literature and Genre Literature—did you find intellectually stimulating? Draw from your reading to support your answer. If you had the option of adding a fifth theme, what would it be? Why?
3. Reflect on the ideas of Britishness that you have come across over the last four semesters. Is this journey a useful one for the Indian student?
4. **Answer ANY TWO of the following: (2x10=20)**
5. Describe your reading experience with A Room of One’s Own. Do you agree with the notion that Woolf aims for a certain kind of difficulty as way of providing the reader disclosures and insights? What are these difficulties? What are these disclosures, if at all they occur?
6. Examine the experience of reading and interpreting poetry this semester. What concerns are you able to identify from the selection discussed? Was there a poem that made you uncomfortable in any way? Review this discomfort for us.
7. Is there a genre of popular fiction that you have enjoyed reading, outside of the syllabus? What connections are you able to make between this reading experience, and the discussions around crime fiction, speculative fiction, or romance novels in class?

**III. Annotate the following excerpts paying close attention to verbal nuance: (2x10=20)**

**6.**

In homes, a haunted apparatus sleeps,

that snores when you pick it up.

If the ghost cries, they carry it

to their lips and soothe it to sleep

with sounds. And yet, they wake it up

deliberately, by tickling with a finger

**7.**

For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;

Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches’ wings;

   Landscape plotted and pieced – fold, fallow, and plough;

      And áll trádes, their gear and tackle and trim.

**IV. Read this 2007 poem by Daljit Nagra, titled Look we Have Coming to Dover. The epigraph is taken from Matthew Arnold’s poem Dover Beach:**

‘*So various, so beautiful, so new…’*

– Matthew Arnold, ‘Dover Beach’

Stowed in the sea to invade

the alfresco lash of a diesel-breeze

ratcheting speed into the tide, brunt with

gobfuls of surf phlegmed by cushy come-and-go

tourists prow’d on the cruisers, lording the ministered waves.

Seagull and shoal life

vexing their blarnies upon our huddled

camouflage past the vast crumble of scummed

cliffs, scramming on mulch as thunder unbladders

yobbish rain and wind on our escape hutched in a Bedford van.

Seasons or years we reap

inland, unclocked by the national eye

or stabs in the back, teemed for breathing

sweeps of grass through the whistling asthma of parks,

burdened, ennobled – poling sparks across pylon and pylon.

Swarms of us, grafting in

the black within shot of the moon’s

spotlight, banking on the miracle of sun –

span its rainbow, passport us to life. Only then

can it be human to hoick ourselves, bare-faced for the clear.

Imagine my love and I,

our sundry others, Blair’d in the cash

of our beeswax’d cars, our crash clothes, free,

we raise our charged glasses over unparasol’d tables

East, babbling our lingoes, flecked by the chalk of Britannia!

**8.** Examine the ideas pf Britishness that are opened up for criticism in the poem. **Your answer should not exceed 200 words: (15 marks)**