**ST JOSEPH’S UNIVERSITY, BENGALURU -27**

**BA (ENGLISH)– III SEMESTER**

**SEMESTER EXAMINATION: OCTOBER 2023**

**(Examination conducted in November /December 2023)**

**OE 322 – OPTIONAL ENGLISH**

**(For current batch students only)**

**Time: 2 Hours Max Marks: 60**

**This paper contains 2 printed pages and 4 parts**

1. You are permitted to use a dictionary.
2. Kindly stick to the suggested word limit.
3. **Answer the following questions in 150-200 words: (2x10=20)**
4. How did the Renaissance reshape society–art, culture, politics–and influence contemporary life and culture?
5. What role did the writings of women like Aphra Behn and Mrs Crackenthorpe play in broadening the discourse on women’s rights and opportunities?

**II. Read the following excerpt from Shakespeare’s *Macbeth:***

When first they put the name of king upon me,

And bade them speak to him: then, prophet-like,

They hail'd him father to a line of kings:

Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown

And put a barren sceptre in my gripe,

Thence to be wrench'd with an unlineal hand,

No son of mine succeeding. If't be so,

For Banquo's issue have I filed my mind;

For them the gracious Duncan have I murder'd;

Put rancours in the vessel of my peace

Only for them, and mine eternal jewel

Given to the common enemy of man,

To make them kings, the seed of Banquo kings!

Rather than so, come, Fate, into the list,

And champion me to the utterance!

**II.A. Answer the following questions in 5-6 lines: (5x4=20)**

1. How do you interpret words like “fruitless” and “barren” in the above excerpt?
2. Discuss the role of the supernatural in Macbeth’s increasing madness and inner turmoil.
3. Identify and explain a moment in the excerpt that indicates Macbeth’s moral decline.
4. How does this soliloquy set the stage for following events?

**III. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 150-200 words: (1x10=10)**

1. Discuss how Aphra Behn’s *The Rover* represents issues of societal expectations, female desire, and agency through its female protagonists.
2. In what way does Queen Elizabeth’s TIlbury Speech seem relevant in contemporary issues of gender and leadership?

**IV. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in 5-6 lines: (2x5=10)**

1. What kind of writing style did the *Female Tatler* adopt to engage with its readers?
2. Discuss John Donne’s use of non-traditional imagery and its effect.
3. What makes *Marriage-a-la-mode* a tragic-comedy?