

Peperiksaan Semester Kedua

Sidang Akademik 1999/2000

Februari 2000

HXE 307 – Odes And Sonnets

Masa: [3 jam]

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER CONTAINS SEVEN [7] QUESTIONS ON FIVE [5] PAGES.

Answer FOUR [4] questions. Students are advised to avoid using the same material for more than one answer.

Equal marks are allocated to all questions..

1. With reference to Hymn in Memory of Christ's Nativity and On His Blindness, discuss John Milton as a "religious" poet.
2. What do you understand by the term "Romanticism"? With reference either to (a) Ode to a Nightingale, or (b) Ode to the Grecian Urn, discuss John Keats as a Romantic poet.
3. Wordsworth's Ode on the Intimations of Immortality presents two essential themes: (a) the relationship between Man and Nature, and (b) the potential greatness of Man. Discuss how these themes are developed in the Ode.
4. What are the essential differences, in form, between the Petrarchan sonnet and the Shakespearean or Elizabethan sonnet?. With reference to the two sonnets attached, (Appendix A) discuss these differences as well as any other notable features of style and content.
5. "Despite its rigid structure, and limited space, the sonnet form has been effectively used by prominent poets a vehicle for the expression of a wide range of subjects and ideas." Discuss this statement with reference to selected sonnets by any three poets.

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6. Write a critical analysis of John Donne's **Death be not proud**. Does this sonnet qualify to be called a metaphysical poem?

7. The dominant theme of the Elizabethan sonneteers has been that of "courtly love". Discuss the implications of this term, illustrating your discussion with appropriate examples.

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APPENDIX A

Love that liveth and reigneth in my thought

Love that reigneth and liveth in my thought
That built his seat within my captive breast,
Clad in arms wherein with me he fought,
Oft in my face he doth his banner rest.
She that me taught to love and suffer pain,
My doubtful hope and eke my hot desire
With shamefast cloak to shadow and refrain,
His smiling grace converteth straight to ire.
And coward love then to the heart apace
Taket h his flight, whereas he lurks and 'plains,
His purpose lost, and dare not show his face.
For my lord's guilt thus faultless bide I pains,
Yet from my lord shall not my foot remove,-
Sweet is his death that takes his end by love.

Petrarch,
(Trans. Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey)

Sonnet 106: When is the chronicle of wasted time

**When in the chronicle of wasted time
I see descriptions of the fairest wights,
And beauty making beautiful old rhyme
In praise of ladies dead and lovely knights,
Then, in the blazon of sweet beauty's best,
Of hand, of foot, of lip, of eye, of brow,
I see their antique pen would have express'd
Even such a beauty as you master now.
So all their praises are but prophecies
Of this our time, all you prefiguring;
And, for they look'd but with divining eyes,
They had not skill enough your worth to sing;
For we, which now behold these present days,
Have eyes to wonder, but lack tongues to praise.**

William Shakespeare

Holy Sonnet: Death, be not proud

**Death, be not proud, though some have called thee
Mighty and dreadful, for thou art not so;
For those whom thou think'st thou doth overthrow,
Die not, poor Death, not yet canst thou kill me.
From rest and sleep, which but thy pictures be,
Much pleasure; then from thee much more must flow,
And soonest our best men with thee do go,
Rest of their bones, and soul's delivery.
Thou are slave to fate, chance, kings, and desperate men,
And dost with poison, war and sickness dwell;
And poppy or charms can make us sleep as well
And better than thy stroke; why swell'st thou then?
One short sleep past, we wake eternally,
And death shall be no more; Death, thou shalt die.**

John Donne

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