

Exam. Code : 216403

Subject Code : 6019

M.A. (English) Semester—III

IRISH LITERATURE

Paper—XI

Time Allowed—3 Hours] [Maximum Marks—80

SECTION—A

Note :— Answer any **SIX** of the following questions in about **150** words each.

1. Discuss the allegorical significance of the floating island of Laputa in *Gulliver's Travels*.
2. In terms of moral development how does Gulliver describe the life of Houyhnhnms.
3. Why is Gwendolen's mother the biggest hypocrite in Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* ?
4. What kind of a character is Miss Prism ? What is her function in Wilde's play ?
5. Briefly comment on Widow Quin's role in Synge's *The Playboy of the Western World*.
6. Why does Christy go home with his father instead of staying and marrying Pegeen ?

7. Discuss how Stephen's views about the clergy change as he matures. (*A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*)
8. How does Stephen's visit to the prostitute affect his life ?
4×6=24

SECTION—B

Note :— Attempt **ALL** the questions.

1. Why does Gulliver seem to believe that more politics automatically means worse government ? In what way do Gulliver's views reflect the political situation of the period in which Swift lived ?

OR

"Gulliver stands as a middle term between the Houyhnhnms and the Yahoos, both of which represent undesirable circumstances", writes Kathleen Williams. Do you agree with Williams's contention ? Can you relate this peculiar situation of Gulliver to Swift's misanthropy ? 14

2. With adequate examples from *The Importance of Being Earnest*, show how Wilde trivializes serious issues and exaggerates those which are trivial. What impact does this strategy have on this play as a satire ?

OR

Citing examples from the text, show how in turning around well-known proverbs or epigrams current in his times, Wilde holds Victorian moral values to ridicule ? 14

3. Discuss how Synge's mixing of tragedy and comedy in *The Playboy of the Western World* is a comment on the complexity of human nature.

OR

Synge's *The Playboy of the Western World* has been hailed as a representative text of the Irish Literary Renaissance despite its riotous reception initially for allegedly misrepresenting Irish ethos. What is your view about the play ? 14

4. Joyce often pinpointed the inability of language in truly expressing meaning. How does Stephen approach this problem in *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* ? What other modes of communication are there in the novel ?

OR

Discuss James Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* as a modernist text. 14