



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

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MAIN EXAMINATION

JANUARY – APRIL 2018 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND COMMUNICATION

ODEL PROGRAMME

MLT 509: ENGLISH LITERATURE BEFORE 1800

Date: APRIL 2018

Duration: 3 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other THREE Questions

Q1. Briefly assess the fictional significance of the following works and movements in English Literary Tradition using concrete illustrations:

- a) The Beowulf **(5 Marks)**
- b) Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales **(5 Marks)**
- c) The Age of Elizabethan as demonstrated in Who will believe my verse in time to come **(5 Marks)**

Who Will Believe My Verse in Time to Come

Who will believe my verse in time to come,
If it were fill'd with your most high deserts?
Though yet, heaven knows, it is but as a tomb
Which hides your life and shows not half your parts.
If I could write the beauty of your eyes
And in fresh numbers number all your graces,
The age to come would say 'This poet lies:
Such heavenly touches ne'er touch'd earthly faces.'
So should my papers yellow'd with their age
Be scorn'd like old men of less truth than tongue,
And your true rights be term'd a poet's rage
And stretched metre of an antique song:
But were some child of yours alive that time,
You should live twice; in it and in my rhyme. **William Shakespeare**

- Q2. Illustrate Dowden's four periods of Shakespearean dramatic authorship adopting them to any four plays from the reading of this course . **(15 Marks)**
- Q3. Discuss the continuity, shifts or backlashes that characterize the flaws of Medieval and Renaissance poetry employing examples of choice from English poets. **(15 Marks)**
- Q4. Apply Alexander Pope's satirical Rape of the Lock to the pertinent issues in the current global society. **(15 Marks)**
- Q5. What is your overall assessment of the era English Literature to 1800? Use as examples three of your favourite English literary works **(15 Marks)**
- Q6. Evaluate John Milton's, Paradise Lost closely highlighting the circumstances of its creation against biblical allusion. **(15 Marks)**

END