

5 SEM FYUGP ENGC5B

2025

(November)

ENGLISH

(Core)

Paper : ENGC5B

(**European Classical Literature**)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

UNIT—I

1. Answer any *two* of the following : 5×2=10

- (a) What is the significance of the Epic in classical literature? Mention any two important epics and their cultural importance.

(2)

- (b) Differentiate between comedy and tragedy in classical Greek drama. Provide suitable examples.
- (c) Briefly describe the role of The Athenian City-State in shaping classical drama and literature.
- (d) Define Catharsis and Mimesis. How do they function in classical tragedy?
- (e) What are the key characteristics of satire in classical literature? Mention any one classical satirist.
- (f) Write a short note on literary cultures in Augustan Rome. How did patronage influence literature during this period?

UNIT—II

2. Answer any one the following :

10

- (a) Describe the character of Achilles as portrayed in *The Iliad*. What makes him a classical hero?

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(Continued)

(3)

- (b) Discuss the role of the gods in *The Iliad*. How do divine interventions shape the course of events?
- (c) Examine how *The Iliad* reflects the values and culture of ancient Greek warrior society.
- (d) Analyse the theme of wrath (menis) in *The Iliad* and its significance in the epic's narrative structure.

3. Answer any one of the following :

5

- (a) Write a brief note on Hector as a family man and warrior.
- (b) Explain the role of fate (moira) in the lives of Homeric heroes.
- (c) What is the significance of Patroclus' death in the development of the plot?
- (d) Briefly discuss Homer's narrative style in *The Iliad*.

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(Turn Over)

UNIT—III

4. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) In *Antigone*, how does Sophocles present the tension between personal duty and political authority? Discuss with reference to the major characters and their choices.
- (b) Explore the ways in which *Antigone* reflects the moral and spiritual dilemmas of its time. How do these dilemmas contribute to the play's tragic depth?
- (c) How might the Chorus in *Antigone* be understood as both a commentator and a participant in the unfolding events? Reflect on its shifting stance throughout the play.
- (d) Examine the interplay of fate and free will in *Antigone*. To what extent do the characters shape their own destinies?

5. Answer any one of the following : 5

- (a) Why does Antigone insist on burying Polyneices despite the king's decree?
- (b) How does Creon react to Tiresias' prophecy and what changes does it bring about in his decisions?
- (c) Explain the role of Ismene in the play. How does her response to Antigone's plan contrast with her sister's?
- (d) Briefly describe how the theme of pride (hubris) contributes to Creon's downfall.

UNIT—IV

6. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) Discuss how *Pot of Gold* explore the theme of greed through the character of Euclio. How does his obsession with money shape the plot and humour of the play?
- (b) In what ways does *Pot of Gold* reflect typical features of Roman comedy? Consider stock characters, mistaken identity, and social satire in your answer.

- (c) Examine the role of family, marriage, and patriarchy in *Pot of Gold*. How does Plautus use these themes to comment on Roman society?
- (d) How does Plautus use irony and comic exaggeration in *Pot of Gold*? Discuss with reference to specific scenes or characters.

UNIT—V

7. Answer any *two* of the following in short :

5×2=10

- (a) How does Ovid's *Pyramus and Thisbe* explore the theme of tragic love? Comment briefly on its connection to later literary traditions.
- (b) What role does punishment play in Ovid's *Philomela*? How is poetic justice achieved in the story?
- (c) In the *Bacchus* episode, how are the consequences of impiety and disbelief portrayed? Briefly comment on the transformation of the sailors.

- (d) How does Horace blend humour and criticism in *Satires 1:4*? Give one example to support your answer.
- (e) Discuss how Horace reflects on poetic identity and literary originality in *Satires 1:4*. What is his view of imitation?
- (f) Briefly explain how Ovid uses the motif of transformation (metamorphosis) to reflect deeper emotional or moral changes in any one of the prescribed stories.
