



# UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**2<sup>ND</sup> SEMESTER 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**FOURTH YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS**

**LITT 422: EUROPEAN LITERATURE OF THE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup>  
CENTURY**

***STREAM: R***

***TIME: 2 HRS***

***DAY: THURSDAY (11.30-1.30PM)***

***DATE: 11/4/24***

**THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF FOUR (4) PAGES**

**PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.**



**Instructions to candidates:** Answer question **ONE** (compulsory) and any **ONE** question from each **SECTION**.

**SECTION A – Compulsory.**

**QUESTION ONE**

- a) Give an account of the historical development of European literature of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. (15mks)
- b) Referring to atleast three texts you have read, discuss the key themes of European literature of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries (15mks)

**SECTION B – PROSE**

**QUESTION TWO**

How is Charles Dickens **Oliver Twist** a true reflection of human suffering and human triumphs against adversity? (20mks)

**QUESTION THREE**

a) ‘Madam Bovary is a classic novel about the struggles and desires of the main character?’  
Discuss (20mks)

**OR**

b) What are the main themes in **The Mayor of Casterbridge** by Thomas Hardy (20mks)

**SECTION C - DRAMA**

**QUESTION FOUR**

Discuss characterization in Nikolai Gogol’s **The Government Inspector?** (20mks)

**QUESTION FIVE**

Who are the real enemies of the people in Henrik Ibsen’s, **An Enemy of the People?** (20mks)



**QUESTION SIX**

What are the main themes in **The Mayor of Casterbridge** by Thomas Hardy? (20mks)

**SECTION D - POETRY**

**QUESTION SEVEN**

Make an analysis of the following poems in aspects of style and themes. (Attached). (20mks)

**Success is counted sweetest – Emily Dickinson.**

Success is counted sweetest  
By those who ne'er succeed.  
To comprehend a nectar  
Requires sorest need.

Not one of all the purple Host  
Who took the Flag today  
Can tell the definition  
So clear of victory

As he defeated – dying –  
On whose forbidden ear  
The distant strains of triumph  
Burst agonized and clear!

**The Chimney Sweeper – William Blake.**

When my mother died I was very young,  
And my father sold me while yet my tongue  
Could scarcely cry " 'weep! 'weep! 'weep! 'weep!"  
So your chimneys I sweep & in soot I sleep.



There's little Tom Dacre, who cried when his head  
 That curled like a lamb's back, was shaved, so I said,  
 "Hush, Tom! never mind it, for when your head's bare,  
 You know that the soot cannot spoil your white hair."

And so he was quiet, & that very night,  
 As Tom was a-sleeping he had such a sight!  
 That thousands of sweepers, Dick, Joe, Ned, & Jack,  
 Were all of them locked up in coffins of black;

And by came an Angel who had a bright key,  
 And he opened the coffins & set them all free;  
 Then down a green plain, leaping, laughing they run,  
 And wash in a river and shine in the Sun.

Then naked & white, all their bags left behind,  
 They rise upon clouds, and sport in the wind.  
 And the Angel told Tom, if he'd be a good boy,  
 He'd have God for his father & never want joy.

And so Tom awoke; and we rose in the dark  
 And got with our bags & our brushes to work.  
 Though the morning was cold, Tom was happy & warm;  
 So if all do their duty, they need not fear harm.

### **QUESTION EIGHT**

Analyse the themes and stylistic devices of any two poems you have read in this course (20mks)