

Short questions:

"The Rape of the Lock"

1. Comment on the allusion of "Strike to dust the imperial towers of Troy" in "The Rape of the Lock"?
2. Comment on the real-life incident on which "The Rape of the Lock" is composed.
3. Comment on the theme "The Rape of the Lock".
4. Comment on the caskets of Belinda.
5. Comment on the allusion of "... Scylla's Fate/ Changed to a bird, and sent to flit in air/ She dearly pays for Nisus's injured hair".
6. Describe Belinda as she is described at the beginning of Canto-2.
7. Why could not Ariel protect Belinda?
8. To which genre of verse does "The Rape of the Lock" belong? Define the genre.
9. Comment on the setting of "The Rape of the Lock".
10. How does Ariel threaten the sylphs in case they are negligent of their duties to Belinda?
11. Name two specific duties assigned by Ariel to his band of sylphs to protect Belinda.
12. How to coffee prepared and served in Canto-3 of "The Rape of the Lock".
13. Give one example of anticlimax in "The Rape of the Lock".
14. What is Diana's Law?
15. "Make Dorimant betray and Loviet rage"- Who are Dorimant and Loveit?
16. To whom Pope dedicated "The Rape of the Lock"? Who was the person?
17. In what manner was the dedication written?
18. Does the title bear any literary reminiscence?
19. " This verse to Caryll, Muse is due"
Who is Caryll? What is meant by Muse?
20. " If she inspire, and he approve my lays"- Does the line seem to be an adaptation or an echo?
21. "It was he had summoned to her silent bed/ The morning dream that hovered over her head"- Who is he here? What is the dream ?
22. "The light militia of the lower sky"- Explain.
23. " With varying vanities , from every part, they shift the moving toyshop of their heart."- Explain.
24. Explain the importance of the morning dream of Belinda.
25. "A heavenly image in the glass appears/ The inferior priestess .."- Explain the line.
26. Discuss the appearance of Belinda on the surface of the river Thames.
27. "With hairy springes we the birds betray,/ Slight lines of hair surprise the finny

prey"- Explain.

28. What does the Baron's altar contain?

29. "Belinda smiled and all the world was gay"- Explain.

30." Though stiff with hoops and armed with ribs of whale"- Explain hoops and ribs.

31. Explain the allusion "Ixon fixed".

32. Comment on the allusion Phoebus.

33. Write a note on the game of Ombre.

34. Sudden he viewed , in spite of all her art

An earthly lover lurking at her heart"- explain.

35. "Here thou, great Anna! Whom three realms obey,

Dost sometimes counsel take – and sometimes tea." Explain.

36. He saw, he wished, and to the prize aspired.

Resolved to win, he meditates the way" Explain the lines.

37. "On her white breast a sparkling cross she wore,

Which Jews might kiss, and infidels adore." What is the meaning of the line.

38. How does the guardian sylph warn Belinda of her impending misfortune?

Specimen Answer

Comment on the real-life incident on which "The Rape of the Lock" is composed.

Pope based **The Rape of the Lock** on an actual incident in which a British nobleman, Lord Petre cut off a lock of hair dangling tantalizingly from the head of the beautiful Arabella Fermor. Petre's daring theft of the lock set off a battle royal between the Petre and Fermor families. John Caryl – a friend of Pope and of the warring families – persuaded the great writer to pen a literary work satirizing the absurdity and silliness of the dispute. The result was one of the greatest satirical poems in all of literature.

In writing the poem, Pope also drew upon ancient classical sources – notably Homer's great epics, **The Iliad** and **The Odyssey** – as models to imitate in style and tone. He also consulted the texts of medieval and Renaissance epics.

Comment on the allusion of "... Scylla's Fate/ Changed to a bird, and sent to flit in air/ She dearly pays for Nisus's injured hair".

In Alexander Pope's mock heroic narrative poem "The Rape of the Lock", Pope reminds us of with an allusion to Greek mythology in lines 121-124, where the narrator warns the Baron not to follow through on his plans, by referring to the story of Scylla and Nisus.

Scylla was a princess, and Nisus was her father. He had a lock of purple hair that made him invincible, and when she fell in love with a rival king, she snipped that lock so that her lover could defeat her father in battle. Her lover was disgusted with her behaviour, and ditched her, and then the gods turned her into a seagull.

To which genre of verse does "The Rape of the Lock" belong? Define the genre.

At the beginning of "The Rape of the Lock," Pope identifies the work as a "heroi-comical poem." Today, the poem – and others like it – is referred to as a mock-epic and sometimes as a mock-heroic. Such a work parodies the serious, elevated style of the classical epic poem – such as **The Iliad** or **The Odyssey**, by Homer – to poke fun at human follies. Thus, a mock-epic is a type of satire; it treats petty humans or insignificant occurrences as if they were extraordinary or heroic, like the great heroes and events of Homer's two great epics. In writing "**The Rape of the Lock**," Pope imitated the characteristics of Homer's epics, as well as later epics such as **The Aeneid** (Vergil), **The Divine Comedy** (Dante), and **Paradise Lost** (Milton)

Comment on the setting of "The Rape of the Lock".

The action takes place in London and its environs in the early 1700's on a single day. The story begins at noon (Canto I) at the London residence of Belinda as she carefully prepares herself for a gala social gathering. The scene then shifts (Canto II) to a boat carrying Belinda up the Thames. To onlookers she is as magnificent as Queen Cleopatra was when she traveled in her barge. The rest of the story (Cantos III-V) takes place where Belinda debark – Hampton Court Palace, a former residence of King Henry VIII on the outskirts of London – except for a brief scene in Canto IV that takes place in the cave of the Queen of Spleen.

'MaCflecknoe'

1. Explain the title of the poem "MaCflecknoe".
2. Who was Shadwell? Why is he attacked in the poem?
3. Comment on the allusion "Wage immortal war".
4. What is meant by "Shadwell's genuine wit"?
5. What is meant by 'Prevails upon the day' in 'MaCflecknoe'.

6. What is meant by 'supinely reign' in 'MacFlecknoe'.
7. Comment on the place of coronation for Shadwell.
8. What were the disagreements between Shadwell and Dryden?
9. Who was Richard Flecknoe.
10. What is the significance of the allusion of 'Hannibal' and 'Hamilcar' in 'MacFlecknoe'?
11. Who was Ascanius?
12. Comment on the Dryden's attitude towards the aspiring but inefficient poets as revealed in 'MacFlecknoe'.
13. Comment on the ludicrous setting of the coronation.
14. Comment on the allusions to the contemporary writers in 'MacFlecknoe'.
15. What prophesy did Decker make as made in 'MacFlecknoe'?
16. What is 'Psyche'?
17. Who was Johnson?
18. Comment on the allusion of flying of owls at Shadwell's coronation.
19. How did Shadwell disappear from the site of the coronation?
20. Comment on the reference of Shadwell's disappearance.
21. What is 'Tautology'?
22. Why did Flecknoe select Shadwell as his successor?
23. Comment on the allusion of "Presage".
24. Write the genre of 'MacFlecknoe'.
25. Who is the 'last prophet of tautology'? Why is he called so?
26. Where did Flecknoe decide to hold his heir's coronation.?
27. Briefly describe the 'Nursery' referred to in Dryden's 'MacFlecknoe'.
28. What objects did Flecknoe hold during the coronation ceremony.

Specimen Answer

Explain the title of the poem "MacFlecknoe".

Ans:- **MacFlecknoe** is the finest short satirical poem by Dryden. 'Mac' is an Irish word which means 'son'. Richard Flecknoe was an Irish inferior poet and dramatist. Shadwell has been portrayed as the son of Richard Flecknoe in the poem to satirize his poetic ability. The sub-title of the poem "**A Satire Upon the True-Blue Protestant poet, T.S**" leads us to expect an attack upon Shadwell's religion opinion.

The title **MacFlecknoe** initiates the theme of familial succession. The poem presents many father-son successor pairs: of God-Christ, Elijah-Elisha, Aeneas-Ascanius,

Hamilcar-Hannibal. The issue of succession was being hotly debated in contemporary politics that would perhaps have added spice to the reader's enjoyment of this narrative of mock-succession.

What were the disagreements between Shadwell and Dryden?

Ans:- John Dryden wrote "Mac Flecknoe" to satirize another English writer, Thomas Shadwell. Dryden and Shadwell had once treated each other amicably but became enemies because of their differing views on the following:

- i) **Politics:-** Dryden was a Tory; Shadwell was a Whig.
- ii) **Religion:-** Shadwell offended Dryden when he satirized Catholic and Dryden was considering becoming a Catholic at the time (and did in 1686).
- iii) **Literature:** Dryden and Shadwell differed strongly on who was the better writer: Shakespeare or Ben Jonson. Dryden took the part of Shakespeare; Shadwell idolized Jonson.

Comment on the allusions to the contemporary writers in 'MacFlecknoe'.

Ans:- Mac Flecknoe is the finest short satirical poem in which Dryden has treated Thomas Shadwell with humorous contempt. Mac Flecknoe is both a personal and literary satire. Constant references are made to his works and other dull writers of the day. Through this poem, he is also ridiculing not only Shadwell's tendency to write mechanical verse but he is attacking the very tendency which dominated the literary scene of the day. Shadwell is linked with bad writing and through this poem he is attacking the worthless writers, such as Heywood, Shirley, Ogleby of the contemporary society.

Who is the 'last prophet of tautology'? Why is he called so?

In the above lines are from Dryden's Mac-Flecknoe, the poet with humorous contempt called Shadwell, his literary rival as the 'last- Prophet of tautology'.

Tautology is a figure of speech in which words or phrases having the same meaning needlessly repeated in the same sentence. Dryden in the poem called so because he made a strong war with wit and there is no sign of wit in his literary work.

" Lycidas "

1. Comment on the occasion of the poem " Lycidas".
2. Comment on the invocation of the muses in " Lycidas".
3. What is told by the poet in the lines 50-57 in " Lycidas"?
4. Comment on the poet's personal relation with Lycideas as described in the poem/
5. Who was Orpheus?
6. Comment on the epilogue of the poem " Lycidas".
7. Comment on the allusion of " Laurels, Myrtles and Ivy " in the poem " Lycidas".
8. Comment on the allusion on "Watrery Bier".
9. What is meant by "sisters of the sacred well" in " Lycidas"?
10. What is meant by Seat of Jove?
11. Who are satyrs in " Lycidas"?
12. Who is Dionysus in " Lycidas"?
13. Who was Damoetas?
14. Comment on the allusion of Mona in " Lycidas".
15. Comments on the allusion of 'Druids' in " Lycidas".
16. Comment on the allusion of 'Deva' in " Lycidas".
17. Comment on the allusion of ' Lesbian Shore' .
18. What is meant by 'Denial Vain' in "Lycidas"?
19. Who is Phoebus?
20. Why does Milton express his reluctance to write a poem at the beginning of Lycidas.
21. What is a Pastoral poem?
22. Who is St. Peter?
23. Comment on the " Uncouth Swain".
24. Comment on the Pilot?
25. What was Samuel Johnson's comment on "Lycidas".
26. What is a pastoral elegy?
27. Who is Neptune?
28. Who are " "sisters of the sacred well"? Why are they invoked?
29. Describe the experiences shared by Lycidas and the poet.
30. Who is the "Pilot of Galilean lake "? What does he carry
31. Who is the " blind fury with the abhorred shears"?
32. Explain the paradox in the line " So Lycidas sunk so low, but mounted high! " .

Specimen Answer

Comment on the occasion of the poem " Lycidas".

Ans:- Milton's Lycidas is a monody in the form of a pastoral elegy written in 1637 to lament the accidental death, by drowning while crossing the Irish sea to visit the family in Ireland of Milton's friend Edward King who was a promising young man of great intelligence.

King's friends proposed to bring out a volume of verses to perpetuate his memory and Milton was asked to contribute a poem to the memorial volume. That is the occasion of the poem "Lycidas".

Comment on the allusion of 'Deva' in "Lycidas".

Ans:- Deva is old poetic name for river Dee. It passes through Chester, the port from which Edward King sailed for Ireland. Changes in its course were supposed to foretell the country's fortune hence called 'wizzard'. The river is also associated with Merlin, the magician of the Arthurian legends.

Comment on the allusion of "Laurels, Myrtles and Ivy" in the poem "Lycidas".

Ans:- In Milton's "Lycidas", "Laurels, Myrtles and Ivy" are addressed because they are evergreen plants associated with poetic inspiration. They are also associated with the Muses in classical poetry. . All the plants mentioned here are evergreen, and hence they are symbols of immortality. In this connection, it may also be noted that the poem ends by suggesting that Lycidas has become 'immortal'.

Comment on the allusion on "Watery Bier".

Ans:- It means a bier made of water. Bier is a movable stand on which corpse or coffin is taken to the grave. This is alluded here here figuratively because King died by drowning while crossing the Irish sea to visit the family in Ireland of Milton's friend Edward King who was a promising young man of great intelligence. Shelley, a romantic poet also uses the phrase 'Watery bier'.

Essay type questions:-

Restoration Period

1. Give an account of late 17th century prose with particular reference to Milton.
2. Critically assess the satirical poetry of Augustan age with special reference to any two major poets.
3. Restoration comedy has been regarded as both the glory and shame of the period"- Elucidate.
4. Discuss growth and development of the periodical essay in the 18th century.
5. Why are the precursors of Romanticism called so? Assess the contribution of any two of them.
6. Write a short verse satire of the Restoration period.
7. Write an essay on the distinctive features of the Restoration comedy with special reference to William cogleve.
8. Write a short essay on the development of the English novel in the 18th century.
9. " It was inevitable that drama should decline after Shakespeare, for the simple reason that there was no other great enough to fill his place".-- Do you agree? Discuss with special reference to any two dramatists of the Jacobean period.
10. Write a short essay on the verse satire of the Augustan age with special reference to Alexander Pope.
11. Bring out the distinctive features of transitional poetry with special reference to Thomas Gray and William Collins.

Specimen Answer

Eighteenth Century is the Age of Prose and Reason

The 18th century viewed as a whole has a distinctive character. It is definitely the Age of understanding, the age of enlightenment, where a literature which had become clear, began to diffuse knowledge among the growing public. This flourishing of enlightened idea and the escalation of reason and logical thought founds its best articulation through the triumph of English prose in the 18th century. As such, the 18th century has often been designated as Matthew Arnold called it an "age of prose and reason". The major prose writers of the age include Jonathan swift (1667 -1745) Joseph Addison (1672 -1719), Richard Steele (1672 -1729) and Samuel Johnson (1704 – 1784), James Bowell (1740 – 1795), Edmund Burke and Edward Gibbon (1737 – 1794).

Jonathan Swift's works are a monstrous satire on humanity. Swift, who hated all shams, wrote, with a great show of learning famous **Bickerstaff Almanac**. This work appeared under the pseudonym of **Isaac Bickerstaff** was pre-eminently focus because of his satiric worlds. Swift's two greatest satires are **A Tale of a Tub** and **Gulliver's Travels**. The Tale began as a grim exposure of the alleged weaknesses of three principle forms of religion beliefs, catholic, Lutheran and Christin as opposed to the Anglican; put it ended in a satire upon all science and philosophy. In **Gulliver's Travels** the practice grows more unbearable strangely enough, this book upon which Swifts' literary fame generally rests, was not written from any literary motive, but rather as an outlet of the author's own bitterness, against fate and human society.

Like Swift, Joseph Addison despised shams, but unlike him he never lost faith in humanity; Addison stripped off the mask of vice to show its ugliness and deformity. Further prompted and aided by the more original genius of his friend Steele, Addison seeds upon the new social life of the clubs and made it the subject of endless pleasant essays upon types of men and manners. His journals **The Tattler** and **The Spectator** are the beginnings of the Coverly essay; and their studies of human character as exemplified in Sir Roger – De – Coverly, are a preparation for the modern novel. The most enduring of Addison's works are Essays collected from **The Tattler** and **The Spectator**. His Essays are the best picture we possess of the new social life of England; they advanced the art of literary criticism to a much higher stage than it had ever reached before. Addison and Steele not only introduce the modern essay but they herald the dawn of the modern novel.

Steele was a rollicking, good – hearted, emotional, lovable Irishman. He was one of the few writers of his time who showed a sincere and endless respect for womanhood He was the origination of **The Tattler** and journeyed with Addison in creating **The Spectator** – the two periodicals which did more to influence the subsequent literature than all the magazines of the century compiled. Steele was the original genius of Sir Roger and of many other characters and essays for which Addison usually received the whole credit. But the majority of the cities hold that the more original parts the characters, the overflowing kindness, are largely Steele's creation while Addison polished and perfected the essays.

Dr. Johnson was probably the most significant intellectual stalwart of the time. His **Dictionary** and his **Lives of the Poets** are worthy to be remembered. The Dictionary as the first ambitious attempt at the English lexicon is extremely valuable, notwithstanding the fact that some of his derivations are incorrect. **Lives of the poets** are the simplest and the most readable of his literary works. As criticisms they are often misleading, giving undue praise to artificial poets like Pope and abundant injustice to nobler poets like Milton, but we owe to them some of the best power picture of the early English poets.

Bowell's Life of Jonson was one of the most famous prose works of the century. It is an immortal work where, like the Greek – sculptures the little slaves produced the more enduring work than the Greek – masters .

Burke is famous for his best known political speeches “**On Conciliation with America** , “**American Taxation**’, ‘**The impeachment of women Hasting**’ and also for his famous book of prose Reflection on the French Revolution. His works reveal the stateliness and the rhetorical power of the English language and because of the the musical cadence of his sentences, and also because of his profound sympathy for humanity and his purpose to establish the truth, Burke won a significant place in the History of English literature.

Only Edward Gibbon remains to be mentioned, His famous prose work is a historical treatise, entitled The Decline and Fall of Roman Empire spanning Roman history from 98 A.D to 1453 A.D. Gibbons style has been characterized as finished , elegant , splendid, rounded , massive , sonorous , elaborate , ornate , exhaustive etc .

The flourish of prose in the 18th century like a tune is also evident in the rise of novel, bought into vogue by Richardson, Fielding, Smollett and Sterne. As a whole it can safely be concluded that because of the growing tendency of prose in the contemporary satires and periodicals, essays which catered to the public tastes increasingly the 18th century lonely triumphs in prose literature.

Short Essay type questions:-

"The Rape of the Lock"

1. Comment on the significance of morning dream of Belinda in "The Rape of the Lock".
2. Describe the game of Ombre in Pope's "The Rape of the Lock" and comment on its mock-heroic significance.
3. Critically comment on Belinda's toilet scene in Canto I of "The Rape of the Lock".
4. How does Ariel threaten the sylphs in case they are negligent of their duties to Belinda "The Rape of the Lock".
5. What is the function of the sylphs in "The Rape of the Lock"?
6. Why "The Rape of the Lock" is called a mock- heroic poem?
7. Write an essay on the Neo-classical elements in "The Rape of the Lock".
8. Is Pope's treatment of Belinda in "The Rape of the Lock" wholly unsympathetic? Justify your answer.

Specimen Answer

How does Ariel threaten the sylphs for their negligence of duty?

In Alexander Pope's "**The Rape of the Lock**", the poet has used the sylphs as the supernatural machinery who cares about Belinda and Ariel is the guardian of them. As the pleasure-boat continues on its way, everyone is carefree except Ariel, who remembers that some bad event has been foretold for the day. But the nature of misfortune and the place where it is going to happen is unknown. He summons an army of sylphs, and Ariel assigns her an extensive troop of bodyguards. **Brillante** is to guard her earrings, **Momentilla** her watch, and **Crispissa** her locks. Ariel himself will protect Shock, the lapdog. A band of fifty Sylphs will guard the all-important petticoat. Ariel pronounces that any sylph who neglects his assigned duty will be severely punished.

As a mode of punishments, they will be imprisoned in a bottle or pierced with sharp pins. Sticky substances like gums and ointments may be applied to his wings to check his flight. In that case, he would beat his sticky wings in vain.

**Gums and pomatums shall his flight restrain,
While clogg'd he beats his silken wings in vain;**

It is also possible that alum, which has contracting power may be applied to his thin, delicate body. Then he would be shrivelled like a faded flower.

**Or alum styptics with contracting pow'r
Shrink his thin essence like a rivell'd flow'r.**

Another severer punishment may be that he be tortured like *Ixion*, the king of Thessaly who was tied straight to a revolving wheel. Ixion's punishment was eternal. It is alluded by the poet to indicate he eternal punishment for the sylphs who would ignore the duty to protect their darling Belinda.

**Or, as Ixion fix'd, the wretch shall feel
The giddy motion of the whirling mill,**

The offending sylphs may be tied to the wheel of the chocolate machine which moves so swiftly that he would feel dizzy. He would feel hot and perspire by the effect of the hot vapours coming out of the cup of chocolate kept just below the machine. This forty cup would appear to him as vast as a stormy sea and he would tremble to look at it.

**In fumes of burning chocolate shall glow,
And tremble at the sea that froths below!"**

"MacFlecnoe"

1. Bring out the significance of the episode of Elijah and Elisha in "MacFlecnoe".
2. How did Flecknoe settle the succession of his kingdom?
3. Reproduce after Dryden the coronation of Shadwell in "MacFlecnoe".
4. Briefly describe the "Nursery" referred to in Dryden's "Macflecnoe".
5. Describe the coronation scene in Dryden's "MacFlecnoe".
6. Comment on Flecknoe's sudden disappearance at the last moment.
7. Describe " Macflecnoe" as a lampoon.
8. What mock-heroic devices used by Dryden in "MacFlecnoe".
9. Critically summarise Flecknoe's first speech in Dryden's "MacFlecnoe"?

Specimen Answer

Describe the episode of Elijah and Elisha in Macflecknoe.

In John Dryden's **MacFlecknoe** At the outset, the king, Flecknoe, determines to relinquish his crown and to choose at once the dullest of his children to assume the throne of the kingdom of Nonsense. The poem presents many father-son successor pairs: *of God-Christ, Elijah-Elisha, Aeneas-Ascanius, Hamilcar-Hannibal*. Flecknoe made arrangements for the coronation ceremony of his son, Shadwell in a place where raw actors were instructed in the art of acting. The atmosphere was normally unhealthy and no great play ever enacted. The place was chosen only for the coronation as it had been prophesied sometime before that a great Emperor of

Dullness would rule there.

**For ancient Decker prophesi'd long since,
That in this pile should reign a mighty prince.**

In the coronation scene, father Flecknoe gives a long prophetic-speech to motivate his son in the path of dullness. He advises his son in matters of 'art and nature'. While his speech is still in progress, Bruce and Longvil, two characters from Shadwell's own plays, drop the 'yet declaiming bard' through a trap door. Flecknoe's Mantle falls on Shadwell bestowing on him twice the measure of his dullness.

***The mantle fell to the young prophet's part,
With double portion of his father's art.***

This is a parody of Biblical incident. While Elijah was to be taken by a whirlwind into heaven, he asked Elisha what he should do for him. Elisha replied '***I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me***'. When Elijah went up by a whirlwind, his mantle fell from him and Elisha took it up and the spirit of Elijah rested upon Elisha.

But Dryden inverts the terms of the analogy; Whereas Elijah ascends to heaven by a whirlwind, Flecknoe's descent produces a 'subterranean' wind.

***Sinking he left his drugget robe behind,
Born upwards by a subterranean wind.***

Flecknoe's coarse woollen robe was carried upwards by a wind that blew from below the earth. This robe became Shadwell's property and it brought him twice the dullness and stupidity of his father.

This allegorical action/ portrait is a sheer comedy. Dryden effectively uses religious images for comic purposes. The ending is anti-climactic and has never been surpassed.

" Lycidas "

1. How does the shepherd in "Lycidas" console himself and his friends after the death of Lycidas?
2. Comments on Milton's view's on the false clergy in " Lycidas".
3. Comment on the 'fame passage' in Milton's "Lycidas".

4. Describe the experience shared by Lycidas and the poet.
5. Milton ends "Lycidas" on a note of consolation and hope. Discuss.
6. Comment on Milton's "Lycidas" as a pastoral elegy.

Specimen Answer

Write a note on Milton's views on false clergy in "Lycidas".

Milton's "Lycidas" is a monody in the form of a pastoral elegy written in 1637 to lament the accidental death, by drawing while crossing the Irish sea to visit the family in Ireland of Milton's friend Edward King who was a promising young man of great intelligence.

To mourn the death of Edward King, the last mourner to come and the last to go was St. Peter who is described as 'The Pilot of the Galilean lake', representing the Christian church as mourning over the death of a so promising a Christian minister as Edward King. In reality, King was preparing himself to become a clergyman of the Church of England. Milton was a Puritan and was bitterly opposed not only to the Roman Catholic Church but to the Roman Catholic Ceremonials introduced into the English church by Archbishop Laud. He therefore puts into the mouth of St. Peter his own severe condemnation of the worldly and unworthy clergy of his day. The whole poem speaks metaphorically in the language of shepherds and sheep. Through the speech of St. Peter, Milton, describes Christian clergymen and the people of their spiritual care as shepherds and sheep respectively.

In this digression, which is built on a metaphor and the continuing Shepherd conceit, Milton describes the Clergy as not caring about anything (116) other than scrambling for a good place at the spring feast for the shearers (117), even to the extent that they "**shove away the worthy bidden guest,**" which also implies that the Clergy may not have been invited to the feast (118).

Milton accuses these individuals, the Clergy of the headnote, of being "**blind mouths!**", and nothing more, who don't know how to shepherd sheep, even to the point of not knowing how to hold the shepherds most valuable tool for saving stray sheep, the "**Sheep-hook.**" He further accuses them of knowing nothing of the "**Herdsmen's art,**" which is another allusion to Jesus.

Milton derides these no-nothing imitation shepherds saying it doesn't concern them that they know nothing as they have what they need: "**What recks it them? What need they? They are sped;...**" Milton contrasts this with the sheep who are hungry and in pain and neglected and at risk of attack by the "**Woolf**", representing Roman Catholic Church. Lines 130 and 131 assert that at the door stands someone holding a double-edged ("two handed") sword who will "smite once" and be so effective in smiting the offending Clergy that only one "smite" will be needed. This is a Christian allusion to the mighty word of God as a double-edged sword: "**For the word**

of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword." (Hebrews 4:12)

So Milton expresses his great resentment in these lines against the gross abuses in the Church and especially against the ritualistic reforms and growing power of the Clergy under Archbishop Laud.

Essay

1. "The First edict was then pronounced"- What is the first edict referred to here? Describe what happens when it is 'pronounced'?
2. What is the importance of Sunday for the village people?
3. How does Addison envision of 'Justice'.
4. Describe the encounter between the Man in Black and the woman in rags.
5. Describe the incident which made pity the weakness of Steele's heart.
6. What is the writer's vision of the editors, critics, commentators and grammarians in the essay "A Vision of Justice"?
7. Write an essay on Goldsmith's handling of the ironic and comic in "The Man in Black".
8. Would you read Addison's essay as a mirror of the society he lived in? Discuss.
9. Bring out the salient feature of Addison's prose style with special reference to the essays you have read.
10. Show with reference to the essays you have read how Goldsmith delights in the oddities of human nature.
11. Write a note on the character of Sir Roger in "Sunday in the Country".
12. Comment on the element of the dramatic element in Goldsmith's "Beau Tibbs".
13. What recollections of childhood does Steele elaborate on in his essay of the same name?

Short questions (Essay):-

Sunday in the Country

1. Why did Addison feel pleased with a country Sunday?
2. What do the villagers do on Sunday not to degenerate into a kind of savages?
3. "Sunday clears away the rust of the whole week" explain.
4. How has Sir Roger beautified the inside of the church?
5. What did Sir Roger do to make his parishioners regular and join the responses?
6. "Several other of the old night's particularities break out upon these occasions" _ Mention some particularities of Sir Roger during prayer time.
7. What did Sir Roger say to John Matthews and why?
8. What kind of relations exist between Sir Roger and the Chaplin?
9. What kind of feuds exist between the parson and the squire?

Specimen Answer

1. Why did Addison feel pleased with a country Sunday?

In Addison's "Sunday in the Country" which appeared in "The Spectator", a daily publication aimed "to enliven morality with wit, and to temper wit with morality", Addison feels very much pleased in a Sunday in the country side. A Sunday in a country side is always welcome because it makes villagers civilized and polished. It usually clears away the rust of the whole week.

2. What do the villagers do on Sunday not to degenerate into a kind of savages?

In Addison's "Sunday in the Country" which appeared in "The Spectator", a daily publication aimed "to enliven morality with wit, and to temper wit with morality", On Sunday the villagers meet together in their best dresses and in their cleanliest habits and talk about various subjects. If people fail to join together in the prayer for God, they are sure to become savages and barbarians.

"A Vision of Justice"

1. "Jam redit et virgo, redeunt saturnia regna", what is the source of the line? what does it mean?
2. What was the discontent of the writer in his essay "A Vision of Justice"?
3. What helped the writer restore his calm of mind?
4. Where was the author of "A Vision of Justice" taking a solitary walk?
5. What does the writer see in his sleep?
6. " On these occasions philosophy suggests motives to religion and religion adds pleasure to philosophy" what are the occasions referred to here?
7. What is the Balance?
8. What was the first edict of the goddess of justice?
9. What was the "Mount of Restitution"?
10. What was the second command of the goddess of justice?
11. "They were drawn up in three bodies" who were drawn up in three bodies?
12. What did Addison say about the men of virtue?
13. What did Addison say about the men of knowledge?

Specimen Answer

"Jam redit et virgo, redeunt saturnia regna", what is the source of the line? what does it mean?

In Addison's "A Vision of Justice" which appeared in "The Spectator", aimed "to enliven morality with wit, and to temper wit with morality", we observe this Latin line under the very title. The source of the Latin line is Virgil's "**Eclogue**". The English meaning of the line is "returning justice brings a golden age".

" On these occasions philosophy suggests motives to religion and religion adds pleasure to philosophy" what are the occasions referred to here?

In Addison's "A Vision of Justice" which appeared in "The Spectator", aimed "to enliven morality with wit, and to temper wit with morality", the author, looking at the nocturnal sky, was delighted to see a particular glowing of the stars that made the sky look richest. The scene of the sky appeared wonderfully adorned and lifted up. Therefore the writer wants to give vent his feelings through suitable meditations on such philosophical and religious speculation.

Recollection of Childhood

1. "She was a very beautiful woman..."- About whom is it spoken? Describe the nature of her.

2. What attitude of Steele is expressed towards the soldiers in the essay "Recollection of Childhood"?
3. How does Steele describe the beauty of his first lady love "Recollection of Childhood"?
4. How does Steele complain about the death of his first love "Recollection of Childhood"??
5. " A large train of disasters were coming on to my memory"- Trace the source and reason of this line. What happened at that moment.
6. " ..but I could, without tears, reflect upon many pleasing adventures I have had with some , who have long been blended with common earth"- Comment on the allusion.
7. Describe Steele's recollection of his father's death as depicted in the essay "Recollection of Childhood".
8. " Untimely and unhappy deaths are what we are most apt to lament " Explain the line.
9. " Thus we groan under life, and bewail those who are relieved from it"- Trace the source and reason of this line.
10. How does Steele recollect the premature death of a young virgin?
11. How was Steele affected by his father's death?

Specimen Answer

The Man in Black

1. Describe the encounter between the Man in Black and the Woman in rags.
2. What does the speaker mean when asks master to "take all my cargo"?
3. "... and yet relieve himself by relieving the sailor"- What does Goldsmith imply by using the same verb 'relieve' twice?
4. How did the Man in Black help the woman begger?
5. How was the expression of the Man in Black seeing woman begger?
6. What was the expression of the Man in Black after the purchase from the disabled sailor? What according to you is the reason behind such expression?
7. " Here master" says he " take all my cargo, and a blessing into the bargain".. Who is the speaker? Describe the occasion?
8. What was the general reflection of the Man in Black about poor in England?
9. Why does the author want friendship with the Man in Black ?
10. What is Parish-house?
11. What was the reaction of the Man in Black on hearing the reason of the sailor's disability in the essay "The Man in Black "?
12. " While his cheek was glowing with compassion"- Who is referred to here? What is the context of this opinion?

13. "I pretend to look another way"- Who pretended to look another way? What happened then?
14. How did the sailor become disabled?
15. " Let me assure you, sir, they are impostors, everyone of them and rather merit a prison than relief" - Who is the speaker? About whom he is talking?

Specimen Answer

Describe the encounter between the Man in Black and the Woman in rags.

Ans:- In Goldsmith's essay 'The Man in Black' which appeared in his most popular essay collection "The Citizen of the World", the focal character, the Man in Black is realistically portrayed and psychologically interesting. It was a poor woman in rags with one child in her arms and another on her back. The woman was singing a ballad in such a mournful voice that one could hardly distinguish whether she was singing or crying. The kind hearted man did not try to hide his feelings any more like before. He began to look for coins in his pocket. Finding no money there he looked deeply distressed. And finally he gave her the bundle of chips that he bought in charity from the sailor. Actually it was the third occasion, when the narrator saw the apparent indifferent mawk of the Man in Black.

. "... and yet relieve himself by relieving the sailor"- What does Goldsmith imply by using the same verb 'relieve' twice?

Ans:- In Goldsmith's essay 'The Man in Black' which appeared in his most popular essay collection "The Citizen of the World", when the author and the Man in Black come across a beggar with a wooden leg, who was a sailor had lost his leg in a war, assumed a look of importance, and in an angry tone began to examine the sailor. But the apparent anger of the Man in Black against the beggars prevented him to show mercy to the beggar before the author but his heart searched for a means to relieve the burden of his heart by helping the beggar and relieve him. So the author used the same verb 'relieve' twice.

Beau Tibbs at Home

1. "Though naturally pensive, Yet I am fond of gay company...." What is the occasion of the comment?
2. Why does Goldsmith approve himself to mingle with gay company instead of being a pensive guy?
3. Narrate the evening , according to Goldsmith in the essay "Beau Tibbs"?
4.So that at last we fairly stood still, resolving to face what we could not avoid "- What is the context of the line?
5. How does Goldsmith describe the appearance of Beau Tibbs?
6. How does Beau Tibbs indicate his 'intimacy with the great'?

7. What according to Goldsmith, might happen to Beau Tibbs when he grows old?
8. "Ned, says he to me"- Who is the speaker here? Who is referred to as 'Ned'?

Specimen Answer

What does the word 'beau' mean? What does the title indicate?

Ans:- "Beau Tibbs" is an essay by Oliver Goldsmith is taken from the collection of essays 'The Citizen of the World'. Actually 'beau' means a dandy or a foppish person. He is outwardly very smart and elegant looking but intellectually he is a failure. A 'beau' is usually engaged to love affairs with many ladies and spends money foolishly in extravagances. So the title here exposes the character of Mr. Tibbs as a 'beau' who is outwardly very smart but intellectually he is a failure.

How does Goldsmith describe the appearance of Beau Tibbs?

Ans:- In Oliver Goldsmith's essay "Beau Tibbs", there is some strangeness in the character of Beau Tibbs. During the conversations between Beau Tibbs and author's friend, the author observes the appearance of their new companion, Beau Tibbs. His hat was pinched up with peculiar smartness; his looks were pale, thin, and sharp; round his neck he wore a broad black ribbon, and in his bosom a buckle studded with glass; his coat was trimmed with tarnished twist; he wore by his side a sword with a black hilt; and his stockings of silk, though newly washed, were grown yellow by long service.

Paper-III

Very short questions:-

From the Restoration to the Romantic Revival(1660-1798)

1. Give the alternative title of Dryden's "All for Love"?
2. Who are referred to as the 'hind' and 'the panther' in Dryden's "The Hind and the Panther"?
3. Name the tragedy written by Addison.
4. Who wrote Roderick Random?
5. Why is Augustan Age called Augustan?
6. Who found 'The Tattler'?
7. Name the book by Fielding which was initially conceived as a parody of Richardson's 'Pamela'?
8. Name two 'graveyard poets' of the 18th century.
9. Name a poem written by Goldsmith.
10. Who was Boswell?
11. Name an important diarist of the Restoration period?
12. To which genre does Hudibras belong?
13. Who wrote Orinooko?
14. Which poem of Pope is modelled on Dryden's 'Macflecnoe'?
15. What is the name of the novel by Goldsmith?
16. Who wrote "The Lives of the Poets"?
17. Which poet of pre-Romantic period committed suicide at the age of 18?
18. What type of novel is "Roderick Random"?
19. Why is the year 1740 important in the history of English literature?
20. Who were the exponents of the periodical essays in the 18th century?
21. Give the title of an important novel by Richardson.
22. When was " Lyrical Ballads " published?
23. Who is regarded as the " Demosthenes of England "? Name one of his masterpiece.
24. Name the author of the " the Decline and the Fall of the Roman Empire"?
25. Name two periodicals of the 18th century? Whose names are associated with them?
26. Who is the author of "Lives of Poets"? Name a poem written by the same author?
27. Name the book by Samuel Johnson often compared with Voltaire's "Candide" and published within a month of each other?
28. Which play of Wycherley is an adaptation of Moliere's " Le Misanthrope"?
29. Name one of the greatest of English painters in 1723-1792.
30. Name the novel by Smollett which is largely autobiographical.
31. Who is the author of pastoral drama " The Gentle Shepherd"?
32. Who wrote " The Beggar's Opera"?
33. Who wrote " The Beaux Stratagem"?

34. Name the two descriptive poems by Milton which may be regarded as complementary to each other?
35. Name the satire by Butler modelled on Cervantes' "Don Quixote"?
36. Who wrote under the pseudonym of Drapier?
37. In which play do we have Tony Lumpkin as an important character?
38. In which prose work of Swift do the three brothers Peter, Jack and Martin figure?
39. Name the play by Dryden written in imitation of Shakespeare's "Antony and Cleopatra"?
40. Who wrote "The Plain Dealer"?
41. Who wrote "The Vision of Mirza"?
42. Who was the playwright who provided the happy ending to "King Lear"?
43. In which drama do Mr. Marwood and Mrs. Millament figure?
44. What are the two complementary anthologies of Blake's poems?
45. Name a picaresque novel in which a woman is in the central character?
46. Who wrote "Hudibras"?
47. Who wrote "The Pilgrim's Progress"?
48. Who is the author of "The Provoked Wife"?
49. Name two plays of George Etherege?
50. Who wrote "Love in a Tub"?
51. Who wrote "Windsor Forest"?
52. Who wrote "John Bull"?
53. Which famous 18th century novel was meant to be a guide to letter writing?
54. Who wrote "A Journal of the Plague Year"?
55. Name two journals with which both Addison and Steele were connected?
56. Is "The Vicar of Wakefield" a biography, a religious treatise or a novel?
57. What is the title of the novel written by Goldsmith?
58. Who wrote "An Essay of Dramatic Poesy"?
59. Name two satires by Swift other than "Gulliver's Travels".
60. Who wrote "The Seasons"?
61. Who was the author of "Lives of Poets"?
62. Who wrote "The Life and Death of Mr. Badman"?
63. Who are authors of "Pamela" and "Pride and Prejudice"? Which of these is epistolary?
64. Can you name the author of "Annus Mirabilis"?
65. Arrange these authors chronologically : i) Tobias Smollet, ii) Daniel Defoe, iii) Henry Fielding, iv) Samuel Richardson, v) Laurence Sterne
66. Who wrote "Moll Flanders" and "Hudibras"?
67. Name two leading authors of Heroic Tragedy.
68. Name two leading authors of Comedy of Manners.
69. Who wrote "The Sullen Lovers"?

70. Who is the author of " Aurung Zebe "?
71. Name a sentimental comedy of the 18th century and its author?
72. With which novel did the tradition of the Gothic novel in English begin?

Short questions:

"The Rape of the Lock"?

1. Comment on the allusion of " Strike to dust the imperial towers of Troy" in "The Rape of the Lock"?
2. Comment on the real-life incident on which "The Rape of the Lock" is composed.
3. Comment on the theme "The Rape of the Lock".
4. Comment on the caskets of Belinda.
5. Comment on the allusion of "... Scylla's Fate/ Changed to a bird, and sent to flit in air/ She dearly pays for Nisus's injured hair".
6. Describe Belinda as she is described at the beginning of Canto-2.
7. Why could not Ariel protect Belinda?
8. To which genre of verse does "The Rape of the Lock" belong? Define the genre.
9. Comment on the setting of "The Rape of the Lock".
10. How does Ariel threaten the sylphs in case they are negligent of their duties to Belinda?
11. Name two specific duties assigned by Ariel to his band of sylphs to protect Belinda.
12. How is coffee prepared and served in Canto-3 of "The Rape of the Lock".
13. Give one example of anticlimax in "The Rape of the Lock".
14. What is Diana's Law?
15. "Make Dorimant betray and Loviet rage"- Who are Dorimant and Loviet?
16. To whom Pope dedicated "The Rape of the Lock"? Who was the person?
17. In what manner was the dedication written?
18. Does the title bear any literary reminiscence?
19. " This verse to Caryll, Muse is due"
Who is Caryll? What is meant by Muse?
20. " If she inspire, and he approve my lays"- Does the line seem to be an adaptation or an echo?
21. "It was he had summoned to her silent bed/ The morning dream that hovered over her head"- Who is he here? What is the dream ?
22. "The light militia of the lower sky"- Explain.
23. " With varying vanities , from every part, they shift the moving toyshop of their heart."- Explain.
24. Explain the importance of the morning dream of Belinda.
25. "A heavenly image in the glass appears/..... The inferior priestess .."- Explain the line.
26. Discuss the appearance of Belinda on the surface of the river Thames.
27. "With hairy springes we the birds betray,/ Slight lines of hair surprise the finny prey"-

Explain.

28. What does the Baron's altar contain?

29. "Belinda smiled and all the world was gay"- Explain.

30. " Though stiff with hoops and armed with ribs of whale"- Explain hoops and ribs.

31. Explain the allusion "Ixon fixed".

32. Comment on the allusion Phoebus.

33. Write a note on the game of Ombre.

34. Sudden he viewed , in spite of all her art

An earthly lover lurking at her heart"- explain.

35. "Here thou, great Anna! Whom three realms obey,

Dost sometimes counsel take—and sometimes tea."..... Explain.

36. He saw, he wished, and to the prize aspired.

Resolved to win, he meditates the way" Explain the lines.

37. "On her white breast a sparkling cross she wore,

Which Jews might kiss, and infidels adore." What is the meaning of the line.

38. How does the guardian sylph warn Belinda of her impending misfortune?

'MaCflecknoe'

1. Explain the title of the poem "MaCflecknoe".

2. Who was Shadwell? Why is he attacked in the poem?

3. Comment on the allusion "Wage immortal war".

4. What is meant by "Shadwell's genuine wit"?

5. What is meant by 'Prevails upon the day' in 'MaCflecknoe'.

6. What is meant by 'supinely reign' in 'MaCflecknoe'.

7. Comment on the place of coronation for Shadwell.

8. What were the disagreements between Shadwell and Dryden?

9. Who was Richard Flecknoe.

10. What is the significance of the allusion of 'Hannibal ' and ' Hamilcar' in 'MaCflecknoe'?

11. Who was Ascanius?

12. Comment on the Dryden's attitude towards the aspiring but inefficient poets as revealed in 'MaCflecknoe'.

13. Comment on the ludicrous setting of the coronation.

14. Comment on the allusions to the contemporary writers in 'MaCflecknoe'.

15. What prophesy did Decker make as made in 'MaCflecknoe'?

16. What is 'Psyche'?

17. Who was Johnson?

18. Comment on the allusion of flying of owls at Shadwell's coronation.

19. How did Shadwell disappear from the site of the coronation?

20. Comment on the reference of Shadwell's disappearance.

21. What is 'Tautology'?
22. Why did Flecknoe select Shadwell as his successor?
23. Comment on the allusion of "Presage".
24. Write the genre of 'MaCflecknoe'.
25. Who is the 'last prophet of tautology'? Why is he called so?
26. Where did Flecknoe decide to hold his heir's coronation.?
27. Briefly describe the 'Nursery' referred to in Dryden's 'MaCflecknoe'.
28. What objects did Flecknoe hold during the coronation ceremony.

" Lycidas" Short Question

1. Comment on the occasion of the poem " Lycidas".
2. Comment on the invocation of the muses in " Lycidas".
3. What is told by the poet in the lines 50-57 in " Lycidas"?
4. Comment on the poet's personal relation with Lycidas as described in the poem/
5. Who was Orpheus?
6. Comment on the epilogue of the poem " Lycidas".
7. Comment on the allusion of " Laurels, Myrtles and Ivy " in the poem " Lycidas".
8. Comment on the allusion on "Watery Bier".
9. What is meant by "sisters of the sacred well" in " Lycidas"?
10. What is meant by Seat of Jove?
11. Who are satyrs in " Lycidas"?
12. Who is Dionysus in " Lycidas"?
13. Who was Damoetas?
14. Comment on the allusion of Mona in " Lycidas".
15. Comments on the allusion of 'Druids' in " Lycidas".
16. Comment on the allusion of 'Deva' in " Lycidas".
17. Comment on the allusion of ' Lesbian Shore' .
18. What is meant by 'Denial Vain' in "Lycidas"?
19. Who is Phoebus?
20. Why does Milton express his reluctance to write a poem at the beginning of Lycidas.
21. What is a Pastoral poem?
22. Who is St. Peter?
23. Comment on the " Uncouth Swain".
24. Comment on the Pilot?
25. What was Samuel Johnson's comment on "Lycidas".
26. What is a pastoral elegy?
27. Who is Neptune?
28. Who are " "sisters of the sacred well"? Why are they invoked?
29. Describe the experiences shared by Lycidas and the poet.

30. Who is the "Pilot of Galilean lake "? What does he carry
31. Who is the " blind fury with the abhorred shears"?
32. Explain the paradox in the line " So Lycidas sunk so low, but mounted high! ".

Short questions:-

Sunday in the Country

1. Why did Addison feel pleased with a country Sunday?
2. What the villagers do on Sunday not to de-generate into a kind of savages?
3. "Sunday clears away the rust of the whole week" explain.
4. How has sir Roger beautified the inside of the church?
5. What did Sir Roger do to make his parishioners regular and join the responses?
6. " Several other of the old night's particularities break out upon these occasions" _ Mention some particularities of sir roger during prayer time.
7. What did Sir Roger say to John Matthews and why?
8. What kind of relations exist between Sir Roger and the Chaplin?
9. What kind of feuds exist between the pardon and the squire?

"A Vision of Justice"

1. "Jam redit et virgo, redeunt saturnia regna", what is the source of the line? what does it mean?
2. What was the discontent of the writer in his essay "A Vision of Justice"?
3. What helped the writer restore his calm of mind?
4. Where was the author of "A Vision of Justice" taking a solitary walk?
5. What does the writer see in his sleep?
6. " On these occasions philosophy suggests motives to religion and religion adds pleasure to philosophy" what are the occasions referred to here?
7. What is the Balance?
8. What was the first edict of the goddess of justice?
9. What was the "Mount of Restitution"?
10. What was the second command of the goddess of justice?
11. "They were drawn up in three bodies" who were drawn up in three bodies?
12. What did Addison say about the men of virtue?
13. What did Addison say about the men of knowledge?

Recollection of Childhood

1. "She was a very beautiful woman..."- About whom is it spoken? Describe the nature of her.
2. What attitude of Steele is expressed towards the soldiers in the essay "Recollection of Childhood"?
3. How does Steele describe the beauty of his first lady love "Recollection of Childhood"?
4. How does Steele complain about the death of his first love "Recollection of Childhood"??
5. " A large train of disasters were coming on to my memory"- Trace the source and reason of this line. What happened at that moment.
6. " ..but I could, without tears, reflect upon many pleasing adventures I have had with some , who have long been blended with common earth"- Comment on the allusion.
7. Describe Steele's recollection of his father's death as depicted in the essay "Recollection of Childhood".
8. " Untimely and unhappy deaths are what we are most apt to lament " Explain the line.
9. " Thus we groan under life, and bewail those who are relieved from it"- Trace the source and reason of this line.
10. How does Steele recollect the premature death of a young virgin?
11. How was Steele affected by his father's death?

The Man in Black

1. Describe the encounter between the Man in Black and the Woman in rags.
2. What does the speaker mean when asks master to "take all my cargo"?
3. "... and yet relieve himself by relieving the sailor"- What does Goldsmith imply by using the same verb 'relieve' twice?
4. How did the Man in Black help the woman begger?
5. How was the expression of the Man in Black seeing woman begger?
6. What was the expression of the Man in Black after the purchase from the disabled sailor? What according to you is the reason behind such expression?
7. " Here master" says he " take all my cargo, and a blessing into the bargain".. Who is the speaker? Describe the occasion?
8. What was the general reflection of the Man in Black about poor in England?
9. Why does the author want friendship with the Man in Black ?
10. What is Parish-house?
11. What was the reaction of the Man in Black on hearing the reason of the sailor's disability in the essay "The Man in Black "?
12. " While his cheek was glowing with compassion"- Who is referred to here? What is the context of this opinion?

13. "I pretend to look another way"- Who pretended to look another way? What happened then?
14. How did the sailor become disabled?
15. " Let me assure you, sir, they are impostors, everyone of them and rather merit a prison than relief" - Who is the speaker? About whom he is talking?

Beau Tibbs at Home

1. "Though naturally pensive, Yet I am fond of gay company...." What is the occasion of the comment?
2. Why does Goldsmith approve himself to mingle with gay company instead of being a pensive guy?
3. Narrate the evening , according to Goldsmith in the essay "Beau Tibbs"?
4.So that at last we fairly stood still, resolving to face what we could not avoid "- What is the context of the line?
5. How does Goldsmith describe the appearance of Beau Tibbs?
6. How does Beau Tibbs indicate his 'intimacy with the great'?
7. What according to Goldsmith , might happen to Beau Tibbs when he grows old?
8. " Ned, says he to me"- Who is the speaker here? Who is referred to as 'Ned'?

Short Essay type questions:-

"The Rape of the Lock"

1. Comment on the significance of morning dream of Belinda in "The Rape of the Lock".
2. Describe the game of Ombre in Pope's "The Rape of the Lock" and comment on its mock-heroic significance.
3. Critically comment on Belinda's toilet scene in Canto I of "The Rape of the Lock".
4. How does Ariel threaten the sylphs in case they are negligent of their duties to Belinda "The Rape of the Lock".
5. What is the function of the sylphs in "The Rape of the Lock"?
6. Why "The Rape of the Lock" is called a mock- heroic poem?
7. Write an essay on the Neo-classical elements in "The Rape of the Lock".
8. Is Pope's treatment of Belinda in "The Rape of the Lock" wholly unsympathetic? Justify your answer.

"MacFlecnoe"

1. Bring out the significance of the episode of Elijah and Elisha in "MacFlecnoe".
2. How did Flecknoe settle the succession of his kingdom?
3. Reproduce after Dryden the coronation of Shadwell in "MacFlecnoe".
4. Briefly describe the "Nursery" referred to in Dryden's "Macflecnoe".

5. Describe the coronation scene in Dryden's "MacFlecnoe".
6. Comment on Flecknoe's sudden disappearance at the last moment.
7. Describe " Macflecnoe" as a lampoon.
8. What mock-heroic devices used by Dryden in "MacFlecnoe".
9. Critically summarise Flecknoe's first speech in Dryden's "MacFlecnoe"?

" Lycidas"

1. How does the shepherd in "Lycidas" console himself and his friends after the death of Lycidas?
2. Comments on Milton's view's on the false clergy in " Lycidas".
3. Comment on the 'fame passage' in Milton's "Lycidas".
4. Describe the experience shared by Lycidas and the poet.
5. Milton ends "Lycidas" on a note of consolation and hope. Discuss.
6. Comment on Milton's "Lycidas" as a pastoral elegy.

Essay

1. "The First edict was then pronounced"- What is the first edict referred to here? Describe what happens when it is ' pronounced'?
2. What is the importance of Sunday for the village people?
3. How does Addison envision of ' Justice '.
4. Describe the encounter between the Man in Black and the woman in rags.
5. Describe the incident which made pity the weakness of Steele's heart.
6. What is the writer's vision of the editors, critics, commentators and grammarians in the essay " A Vision of Justice"?
7. Write an essay on Goldsmith's handling of the ironic and comic in "The Man in Black".
8. Would you read Addison's essay as a mirror of the society he lived in? Discuss.
9. Bring out the Salient feature of Addison's prose style with special reference to the essays you have read.
10. Show with reference to the essays you have read how Goldsmith delights in the oddities of human nature.
11. Write a note on the character of Sir Roger in " Sunday in the Country".
12. Comment on the element on the dramatic element in Goldsmith's "Beau Tibbs".
13. What recollections of childhood does Steele elaborate on in his essay of the same name?

Essay type questions:-

"The Rape of the Lock"

1. Discuss "The Rape of the Lock" as a social satire.

2. Comment on "The Rape of the Lock" as mirror to the 18th century social life.
3. Consider "The Rape of the Lock" as the representative poem of the Age of Pope.
4. Elucidate and elaborate role of the supernatural machinery in "The Rape of the Lock".
5. What is mock-heroic poem? Illustrate fully the mock-heroic quality of "The Rape of the Lock".
6. Comment on the mingling of wit and fancy in "The Rape of the Lock".
7. Discuss "The Rape of the Lock" as a masterpiece of poetic art.
8. Comment on the character of Belinda in "The Rape of the Lock".

"MacFlecnoe"

1. Discuss the view that "MacFlecnoe" is a personal satire, having the characteristics of a mock-heroic fantasy.
2. Consider "MacFlecnoe" as a satirical poem prompted by personal and impersonal motives.
3. "MacFlecnoe" is a comic rather than a satirical portrait'- Do u agree?
4. Write a critique of "MacFlecnoe" .

"Lycidas"

1. Discuss the theme of "Lycidas".
2. Can "Lycidas" be regarded as a pastoral elegy?
3. Write a critical assessment of "Lycidas".
4. Write a note on Milton's imagination in "Lycidas".
5. Discuss Milton's "Lycidas" concerned Milton himself.
6. Write a note on 'Water imagery' in "Lycidas".

Essay type questions:-

"The Rivals"

1. Explain the significance of the title of the play "The Rivals".
2. Discuss Sheridan's art of comic portraiture in "The Rivals" with special reference to any two characters.
3. Consider "The Rivals" as an anti-sentimental comedy
4. Examine the "The Rivals" as a comedy of manners.
5. Examine "The Rivals" as a comedy or farce.
6. Write a note on Sheridan's plot and plot-structure in "The Rivals".
7. What account of social life of 18th century England is revealed in the play "The Rivals".
8. Briefly discuss the satiric element in "The Rivals".
9. Write an illustrate note on Malapropism in "The Rivals".
10. "Faulkland is a sentimental fool"- Discuss with textual references.
11. Discuss critically Sheridan's treatment of women characters in "The Rivals".

Essay type questions:-

" Gulliver's Travels "

1. Comment on the use of irony in "Gulliver's Travels ", books I and II.
 2. Bring out Swift's satirical methods and techniques as revealed in "Gulliver's Travels ", books I and II.
- Examine "Gulliver's Travels ", (books I) as a political allegory.
4. Discuss either book I or II of " Gulliver's Travels " as a parody of travel of travel literature.
 5. Comment on the various devices employed by swift to achieve an ironic effect in "Gulliver's Travels " books I and II.
 6. Comment on the character of Gulliver as revealed in " Gulliver's Travels "books I and II.
 7. Bring out the elements that make " Gulliver's Travels "(books I and II) , 'the classic children's story'.
 8. In " Gulliver's Travels "(books I and II), Swift has employed his satire to lash human pride.- Discuss.
 9. Gulliver's Travels makes an effective amalgam of the rational and fantastic . Critically analyse this view with references to " Gulliver's Travels " (books I and II).
 10. Write a brief Critical note on Swift's use of the first person narrative technique in " Gulliver's Travels " (books I and II).

Essay type questions:-

Restoration Period

1. Give an account of late 17th century prose with particular reference to Milton.
- 2, Critically assess the satirical poetry of Augustan age with special reference to any two major poets.
3. Restoration comedy has been regarded as both the glory and shame of the period"- Elucidate.
4. Discuss growth and development of the periodical essay in the 18th century.
5. Why are the precursors of Romanticism called so? Assess the contribution of any two of them.
6. Write a short verse satire of the Restoration period.
7. Write an essay on the distinctive features of the Restoration comedy with special reference to William cogeve.
8. Write a short essay on the development of the English novel in the 18th century.
9. " It was inevitable that drama should decline after Shakespeare, for the simple reason that there was no other great enough to fill his place".-- Do you agree? Discuss with special reference to any two dramatists of the Jacobean period.
10. Write a short essay on the verse satire of the Augustan age with special reference to Alexander Pope.
11. Bring out the distinctive features of transitional poetry with special reference to Thomas Gray and William Collins.

Explain:-

The Rape of the Lock

1. What dire offence from am'rous causes springs,
What mighty contests rise from trivial things,
2. Now lap-dogs give themselves the rousing shake,
And sleepless lovers, just at twelve, awake:
3. Know then, unnumber'd spirits round thee fly,
The light militia of the lower sky;
4. These, though unseen, are ever on the wing,
Hang o'er the box, and hover round the Ring.
5. Think not, when woman's transient breath is fled,
That all her vanities at once are dead;
Succeeding vanities she still regards,
And tho' she plays no more, o'erlooks the cards.
6. With varying vanities, from ev'ry part,
They shift the moving toyshop of their heart;
Where wigs with wigs, with sword-knots sword-knots strive,
Beaux banish beaux, and coaches coaches drive.
7. This erring mortals levity may call,
Oh blind to truth! the Sylphs contrive it all.
Of these am I, who thy protection claim,
A watchful sprite, and Ariel is my name.
8. I saw, alas! some dread event impend,
Ere to the main this morning sun descend,
But Heav'n reveals not what, or how, or where:
Warn'd by the Sylph, oh pious maid, beware!

9. A heav'nly image in the glass appears,
To that she bends, to that her eyes she rears;
Th' inferior priestess, at her altar's side,
Trembling, begins the sacred rites of pride.

10. This casket India's glowing gems unlocks,
And all Arabia breathes from yonder box.
Here files of pins extend their shining rows,
Puffs, powders, patches, bibles, billet-doux.

11. On her white breast a sparkling cross she wore,
Which Jews might kiss, and infidels adore.

Her lively looks a sprightly mind disclose,
Quick as her eyes, and as unfix'd as those:

12. This nymph, to the destruction of mankind,
Nourish'd two locks, which graceful hung behind
In equal curls, and well conspir'd to deck
With shining ringlets the smooth iv'ry neck.

13. With hairy springes we the birds betray,
Slight lines of hair surprise the finney prey,
Fair tresses man's imperial race ensnare,
And beauty draws us with a single hair.

14. he had implor'd
Propitious Heav'n, and ev'ry pow'r ador'd,
But chiefly love—to love an altar built,
Of twelve vast French romances, neatly gilt.

15. "To fifty chosen Sylphs, of special note,
We trust th' important charge, the petticoat:
Oft have we known that sev'n-fold fence to fail,
Though stiff with hoops, and arm'd with ribs of whale.

16. Or, as Ixion fix'd, the wretch shall feel
The giddy motion of the whirling mill,
In fumes of burning chocolate shall glow,
And tremble at the sea that froths below!"

17. Here thou, great Anna! whom three realms obey,
Dost sometimes counsel take—and sometimes tea.

18. he hungry judges soon the sentence sign,
And wretches hang that jury-men may dine;

19. The merchant from th' Exchange returns in peace,
And the long labours of the toilet cease.

20. He watch'd th' ideas rising in her mind,
Sudden he view'd, in spite of all her art,
An earthly lover lurking at her heart.

21. The peer now spreads the glitt'ring forfex wide,
T' inclose the lock; now joins it, to divide.
Ev'n then, before the fatal engine clos'd,
A wretched Sylph too fondly interpos'd;

Explanation:-

Topic :-“ Lycidas”

1. Bitter constraint and sad occasion dear
Compels me to disturb your season due;
For Lycidas is dead, dead ere his prime,
Young Lycidas, and hath not left his peer.

2. So may some gentle muse
With lucky words favour my destin'd urn,
And as he passes turn
And bid fair peace be to my sable shroud!

3. Rough Satyrs danc'd, and Fauns with clov'n heel,
From the glad sound would not be absent long;
And old Damætas lov'd to hear our song.

4. Where were ye, Nymphs, when the remorseless deep
Clos'd o'er the head of your lov'd Lycidas?

5. Where your old bards, the famous Druids, lie,
Nor on the shaggy top of Mona high,
6. Nor yet where Deva spreads her wizard stream.

7. "Fame is no plant that grows on mortal soil,
Nor in the glistening foil
Set off to th'world, nor in broad rumour lies,
But lives and spreads aloft by those pure eyes

8. He ask'd the waves, and ask'd the felon winds,
"What hard mishap hath doom'd this gentle swain?"

9. Bring the rathe primrose that forsaken dies,
The tufted crow-toe, and pale jessamine,
The white pink, and the pansy freak'd with jet,
The glowing violet,
The musk-rose, and the well attir'd woodbine,

10. Weep no more, woeful shepherds, weep no more,
For Lycidas, your sorrow, is not dead,

11. So Lycidas sunk low, but mounted high
Through the dear might of him that walk'd the waves;

12. Now, Lycidas, the shepherds weep no more:
Henceforth thou art the Genius of the shore,
At last he rose, and twitch'd his mantle blue:
To-morrow to fresh woods, and pastures new.

Macflecknoe

1. All human things are subject to decay,
And, when Fate summons, monarchs must obey:

2. Shadwell alone my perfect image bears,
Mature in dullness from his tender years.
Shadwell alone, of all my sons, is he
Who stands confirm'd in full stupidity.

3. Heywood and Shirley were but types of thee,
Thou last great prophet of tautology:
Even I, a dunce of more renown than they,
Was sent before but to prepare thy way;

4. Methinks I see the new Arion sail,
The lute still trembling underneath thy nail.
At thy well sharpen'd thumb from shore to shore
The treble squeaks for fear, the basses roar:

5. No Persian carpets spread th'imperial way,
But scatter'd limbs of mangled poets lay:

From dusty shops neglected authors come,
Martyrs of pies, and reliques of the bum.

6. The hoary prince in majesty appear'd,
High on a throne of his own labours rear'd.
At his right hand our young Ascanius sat
Rome's other hope, and pillar of the state.

7. Just at that point of time, if fame not lie,
On his left hand twelve reverend owls did fly.
So Romulus, 'tis sung, by Tiber's brook,
Presage of sway from twice six vultures took.

8. Like mine thy gentle numbers feebly creep,
Thy Tragic Muse gives smiles, thy Comic sleep.

9. Sinking he left his drugget robe behind,
Born upwards by a subterranean wind.
The mantle fell to the young prophet's part,
With double portion of his father's art.

Very short questions:-

From the Restoration to the Romantic Revival(1660-1798)

1. Give the alternative title of Dryden's "All for Love"?
2. Who are referred to as the 'hind' and 'the panther' in Dryden's "The Hind and the Panther"?
3. Name the tragedy written by Addison.
4. Who wrote Roderick Random?
5. Why is Augustan Age called Augustan?
6. Who found 'The Tattler'?
7. Name the book by Fielding which was initially conceived as a parody of Richardson's 'Pamela'?
8. Name two 'graveyard poets' of the 18th century.
9. Name a poem written by Goldsmith.
10. Who was Boswell?
11. Name an important diarist of the Restoration period?
12. To which genre does Hudibras belong?
13. Who wrote Orinooko?
14. Which poem of Pope is modelled on Dryden's 'Macflecnoe'?
15. What is the name of the novel by Goldsmith?
16. Who wrote "The Lives of the Poets"?
17. Which poet of pre-Romantic period committed suicide at the age of 18?
18. What type of novel is "Roderick Random"?
19. Why is the year 1740 important in the history of English literature?
20. Who were the exponents of the periodical essays in the 18th century?
21. Give the title of an important novel by Richardson.
22. When was " Lyrical Ballads " published?
23. Who is regarded as the " Demosthenes of England "? Name one of his masterpiece.
24. Name the author of the " the Decline and the Fall of the Roman Empire"?
25. Name two periodicals of the 18th century? Whose names are associated with them?
26. Who is the author of "Lives of Poets"? Name a poem written by the same author?
27. Name the book by Samuel Johnson often compared with Voltaire's "Candide" and published within a month of each other?
28. Which play of Wycherley is an adaptation of Moliere's " Le Misanthrope"?
29. Name one of the greatest of English painters in 1723-1792.
30. Name the novel by Smollett which is largely autobiographical.
31. Who is the author of pastoral drama " The Gentle Shepherd"?
32. Who wrote " The Beggar's Opera"?

33. Who wrote " The Beaux Stratagem"?
34. Name the two descriptive poems by Milton which may be regarded as complementary to each other?
35. Name the satire by Butler modelled on Cervantes' "Don Quixote"?
36. Who wrote under the pseudonym of Drapier?
37. In which play do we have Tony Lumpkin as an important character?
38. In which prose work of Swift do the three brothers Peter, Jack and Martin figure?
39. Name the play by Dryden written in imitation of Shakespeare's "Antony and Cleopatra"?
40. Who wrote " The Plain Dealer"?
41. Who wrote " The Vision of Mirza"?
42. Who was the playwright who provided the happy ending to "King Lear"?
43. In which drama do Mr. Marwood and Mrs. Millamant figure?
44. What are the two complementary anthologies of Blake's poems?
45. Name a picaresque novel in which a woman is in the central character?
46. Who wrote " Hudibras"?
47. Who wrote " The Pilgrim's Progress"?
48. Who is the author of " The Provoked Wife"?
49. Name two plays of George Etherege?
50. Who wrote " Love in a Tub "?
51. Who wrote " Windsor Forest "?
52. Who wrote " John Bull "?
53. Which famous 18th century novel was meant to be guide to letter writing?
54. Who wrote " A Journal of the Plague Year "?
55. Name two journals with which both Addison and Steele were connected?
56. Is " The Vicar of Wakefield " a biography, a religious treatise or a novel?
57. What is the title of the novel written by Goldsmith?
58. Who wrote " An Essay of Dramatic Poesy "?
59. Name two satires by Swift other than "Gulliver's Travels".
60. Who wrote " The Seasons"?
61. Who was the author of " Lives of Poets"?
62. Who wrote "The Life and Death of Mr. Badman"?
63. Who are authors of "Pamela" and " Pride and Prejudice" ? Which of these is epistolary?
64. Can you name the author of "Annus Mirabilis"?
65. Arrange these authors chronologically : i) Tobias Smollet, ii) Daniel Defoe, iii) Henry Fielding iv) Samuel Richardson v) Laurence Sterne
66. Who wrote "Moll Flanders" and "Hudibras"?
67. Name two leading authors of Heroic Tragedy.
68. Name two leading authors of Comedy of Manners.

69. Who wrote " The Sullen Lovers "?

70. Who is the author of " Aurung Zebe "?

71. Name a sentimental comedy of the 18th century and its author?

72. With which novel did the tradition of the Gothic novel in English begin?

Essay type questions:-

" Gulliver's Travels "

1. Comment on the use of irony in "Gulliver's Travels ", books I and II.
2. Bring out Swift's satirical methods and techniques as revealed in "Gulliver's Travels ", books I and II.
- Examine "Gulliver's Travels ", (books I) as a political allegory.
4. Discuss either book I or II of " Gulliver's Travels " as a parody of travel of travel literature.
5. Comment on the various devices employed by swift to achieve an ironic effect in "Gulliver's Travels " books I and II.
6. Comment on the character of Gulliver as revealed in " Gulliver's Travels "books I and II.
7. Bring out the elements that make " Gulliver's Travels "(books I and II) , 'the classic children's story'.
8. In " Gulliver's Travels "(books I and II), Swift has employed his satire to lash human pride.- Discuss.
9. Gulliver's Travels makes an effective amalgam of the rational and fantastic . Critically analyse this view with references to " Gulliver's Travels " (books I and II).
10. Write a brief Critical note on Swift's use of the first person narrative technique in " Gulliver's Travels " (books I and II).

Specimen Answer

Political Allegory in Gulliver's Travels

Gulliver's Travels is a great novel written by Jonathan Swift. It is about voyages of Gulliver-main character-to different countries. Gulliver's Travels is a political allegory of England at Swift's time. The word allegory means a simple that can be objects, characters, figures or colours used to represent an abstract idea or concepts. Swift uses this novel to criticize the political condition of England at the 18th century and to make a satire of the royal court of George I . Gulliver's Travels has established itself as a classic for young people. Its appeal to young minds is due to the fact that it is, on the surface, an adventure story of strange wonderful lands. As a matter of fact, it is taken by the mature reader as an allegory work of England at Swift's time.

One clear example of Swift's use of political allegory is the Rope Dancers, who are Lilliputians seeking employment in the government. All candidates are asked to dance on the rope and whoever jumps the highest without falling is offered a high office . Very often the current ministers are asked to dance to show their skills . For instance, Flimnap, the treasurer, is

required to dance on a tight rope to show his superiority to other in this respect. This jumping game may sound innocent to the children, however, politically its significance is far from innocent. Obviously, Swift makes a satire on the way in which political offices were distributed among the candidates by George I. Flimnap stands for Sir Robert Walpole the prime minister of England. Dancing on a tight rope symbolizes Walpole's skill in parliamentary tactics and political intrigues. In general, Swift wants to infer that England's system is arbitrary and corrupted. The phrase "one of the king's cushions" refers to one of King George I's mistresses who helped to restore Walpole after his fall in 1717. High Admiral Skyresh Bolgolam which turns out to be Gulliver's 'mortal enemy' represents Earl of Nottingham while Reldresal may stand for Lord Townshend or Lord Carteret who was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland by Walpole.

Gulliver's extinguishing of the fire in the queen's palace is an allegorical reference to Queen Anne's annoyance with Swift on writing "**A Tale of a Tub**". The queen misinterpreted the book and got annoyed.

Another example is the quarrels of factions inside the island of Lilliput. Which is the struggle between the High Heels and the Low Heels. The High Heels are most agreeable to the ancient constitution and more in number than the Low Heels, whereas the authority and power are on the side of the Low Heels because the emperor uses them in the administration of the government. The struggle between these two parties comparable to the struggle between the Whig and Tory parties of Britain. Satirically, Swift uses them to describe the political condition inside England at his time.

In addition to that, Lilliput has been at war with its neighbouring island of Blefuscu for two generations. The reason of the war between them is a difference of opinion about whether the right way to break an egg from the big or the small end?. When part of the population resisted the king's edict to change the end they break, civil war resulted. Satirically, Swift intends the war between Lilliput and Blefuscu to represent the war between Catholic France and Protestant England. The war between them started by Henry break with the Roman Catholic church and the subsequent establishment of the independent church of England, leading eventually to the English civil war and the glorious revolution.

In the second voyage of Gulliver, there is a general satire on humanity and human physiognomy. Much of this voyage is made up of lampooning British political history. After Gulliver tries to extol the virtues of his country-men, the king deduces that the history of Gulliver's country "was only a heap of conspiracies, rebellions, murders, massacres, revolutions, banishments" etc. When Gulliver tries to improve his condition by offering him the secret of gun-powder, the king is horrified and dismissively concludes that "the bulk of your natives to be the most pernicious race of little odious vermin that nature ever suffered to crawl upon the surface of the earth".

In short, Swift successfully manages satirizing English politics, English politicians, and English monarchs of that period of history to which Swift himself belongs. Thus we can conclude that “Gulliver’s Travels” is a great work of allegory. The whole book is written in a fanciful manner, but beneath the fiction and under the surface there lies a serious purpose “to vex the world rather than divert it”.

Explanation:-

Topic :-“ Lycidas”

1. Bitter constraint and sad occasion dear
Compels me to disturb your season due;
For Lycidas is dead, dead ere his prime,
Young Lycidas, and hath not left his peer.

2. So may some gentle muse
With lucky words favour my destin'd urn,
And as he passes turn
And bid fair peace be to my sable shroud!

3. Rough Satyrs danc'd, and Fauns with clov'n heel,
From the glad sound would not be absent long;
And old Damætas lov'd to hear our song.

4. Where were ye, Nymphs, when the remorseless deep
Clos'd o'er the head of your lov'd Lycidas?

5. Where your old bards, the famous Druids, lie,
Nor on the shaggy top of Mona high,

6. Nor yet where Deva spreads her wizard stream.

7. "Fame is no plant that grows on mortal soil,

Nor in the glistering foil
Set off to th'world, nor in broad rumour lies,
But lives and spreads aloft by those pure eyes

8. He ask'd the waves, and ask'd the felon winds,
"What hard mishap hath doom'd this gentle swain?"

9. Bring the rathe primrose that forsaken dies,
The tufted crow-toe, and pale jessamine,
The white pink, and the pansy freak'd with jet,
The glowing violet,
The musk-rose, and the well attir'd woodbine,

10. Weep no more, woeful shepherds, weep no more,
For Lycidas, your sorrow, is not dead,

11. So Lycidas sunk low, but mounted high
Through the dear might of him that walk'd the waves;

12. Now, Lycidas, the shepherds weep no more:
Henceforth thou art the Genius of the shore,
At last he rose, and twitch'd his mantle blue:
To-morrow to fresh woods, and pastures new.

Macflecknoe

1. All human things are subject to decay,
And, when Fate summons, monarchs must obey:

2. Shadwell alone my perfect image bears,
Mature in dullness from his tender years.
Shadwell alone, of all my sons, is he
Who stands confirm'd in full stupidity.

3. Heywood and Shirley were but types of thee,
Thou last great prophet of tautology:
Even I, a dunce of more renown than they,
Was sent before but to prepare thy way;

4. Methinks I see the new Arion sail,
The lute still trembling underneath thy nail.
At thy well sharpen'd thumb from shore to shore
The treble squeaks for fear, the basses roar:

5. No Persian carpets spread th'imperial way,
But scatter'd limbs of mangled poets lay:
From dusty shops neglected authors come,
Martyrs of pies, and reliques of the bum.

6. The hoary prince in majesty appear'd,
High on a throne of his own labours rear'd.
At his right hand our young Ascanius sat
Rome's other hope, and pillar of the state.

7. Just at that point of time, if fame not lie,
On his left hand twelve reverend owls did fly.
So Romulus, 'tis sung, by Tiber's brook,
Presage of sway from twice six vultures took.

8. Like mine thy gentle numbers feebly creep,
Thy Tragic Muse gives smiles, thy Comic sleep.

9. Sinking he left his drugget robe behind,
Born upwards by a subterranean wind.
The mantle fell to the young prophet's part,
With double portion of his father's art.

Essay type questions:-

"The Rape of the Lock"

1. Discuss "The Rape of the Lock" as a social satire.
2. Comment on "The Rape of the Lock" as mirror to the 18th century social life.
3. Consider "The Rape of the Lock" as the representative poem of the Age of Pope.
4. Elucidate and elaborate role of the supernatural machinery in "The Rape of the Lock".
5. What is mock-heroic poem? Illustrate fully the mock-heroic quality of "The Rape of the Lock".
6. Comment on the mingling of wit and fancy in "The Rape of the Lock".
7. Discuss "The Rape of the Lock" as a masterpiece of poetic art.
8. Comment on the character of Belinda in "The Rape of the Lock".

"MacFlecnoe"

1. Discuss the view that "MacFlecnoe" is a personal satire, having the characteristics of a mock-heroic fantasy.
2. Consider "MacFlecnoe" as a satirical poem prompted by personal and impersonal motives.
3. "MacFlecnoe" is a comic rather than a satirical portrait'- Do u agree?
4. Write a critique of "MacFlecnoe" .

"Lycidas"

1. Discuss the theme of "Lycidas".
2. Can "Lycidas" be regarded as a pastoral elegy?
3. Write a critical assessment of "Lycidas".
4. Write a note on Milton's imagination in "Lycidas".
5. Discuss Milton's "Lycidas" concerned Milton himself.
6. Write a note on 'Water imagery' in "Lycidas".

Specimen Answer

Write a critical note on the blending of different elements in '*The Rape of the Lock*'. Or,

Comment on the mingling of wit and fancy in the poem.

'The Rape of the Lock' is remarkable for its harmonious blending of three separate elements. These elements are (i) a witty parody of the epic or heroic style and manner; (ii) satire on contemporary London society; and (iii) delightful play of fancy. The poet has shown considerable skill in weaving these three threads of the poem into a harmonious whole.

'The Rape of the Lock' is a heroi-comical poem, for it in the elevated style and manner of an epic has been used for trivial subject, obviously undeserving of such a treatment and thus a ludicrous or comic effect has been created. There is travesty of the epic values. Pope's poem parodies both the content and the style of the epic. In the manner of an epic poet Pope also introduces : (i) the supernatural machinery; (ii) a number of episodes, like the game of Ombre; (iii) accounts of battle and single combats ; (iv) journeys to the under world, i.e. , the descent of Umbriel to the cave of the Spleen (v) the punishment inflicted by the chief of the supernatural on his followers, symbolized by the threats of Ariel to the Sylphs. The mockery of the epic takes different forms and employs different devices, but on the whole it results from diminution. Tillotson says:-

"The epic is a long poem, 'The Rape of the Lock' is a short. The story of the epic covers years; that of 'The Rape of the Lock' hours. The gods of the epic are stupendous creatures; Pope's sylphs tiny".

'The Rape of the Lock' is a masterpiece of mock-heroic because "it mocks at the maximum amount of the epic". Apart from the parody of the substance of the epic, we also get a witty parody of the epic or heroic style in poetry. A vein of comic irony runs throughout the poem. The poem begins with an invocation to the *Muse* in imitation of epic style.

I sing—This verse to Caryl, Muse! is due:

This, ev'n Belinda may vouchsafe to view:

The toilet of Belinda is likened to the arming of the epic hero, the Baron performs the sacred rites in the manner of the epic hero on the eve of his adventures.

**With tender billet-doux he lights the pyre,
And breathes three am'rous sighs to raise the fire.**

Belinda is provided with a sevenfold fence in her hoop petticoat and epic style continues till the very end when her lock rises up to the sky and becomes a bright constellation.

'The Rape of the Lock' is a mocking poem. It mocks simultaneously at two objects- the great epic form as well as the life of the fashionable upper strata of London society. The trivial things that have been exalted and presented in a ludicrous light are the vanities and follies, the

frivolities and fopperies, of the belles and fops of the 18th c. London. The beaux and fops with their wide-skirted coats and high heeled shoes, their snuff boxes, ways of acting and speaking, the belles with their petticoats 'stiff with hoops and armed with ribs of whale', their powders, patches, their fans, and their billet-doux, in short , the entire social life of the Augustan has been satirically presented.

Thus witty parody of the epic and witty satire on contemporary social life , mingle and blend and become one. But this double mockery further mingles with a third element the fanciful. **'The Rape of the Lock'** is a rare example of of the harmonious mingling of brilliant wit and good sense with delicate fancy. The scope for the free play of the poet's fancy is largely provided by the sylphs which form the 'machines' of the mock-epic. When dealing with them his imagination has free play, unhampered by literary fact or facts of social life. I passage describing the sylphs and their activities, Pope rises to true poetic heights. We should note the rich sensuousness and delicate play of fancy of the following:

**Loose to the wind their airy garments flew,
Thin glitt'ring textures of the filmy dew;
Dipp'd in the richest tincture of the skies,
Where light disports in ever-mingling dyes,**

The Sylphs are the creations of the poetic imagination of Pope. He got the barest hint for them from the French book "***Le Comte De Gebalis***" and it was his creative imagination which transformed that hint into objects of wonder and poetic beauty.

This harmonious blending of different elements makes **'The Rape of the Lock'** a classic, one of the world's immortal poems. It is the perfection of the mock-epic, as also the perfection of the drawing room muse and a lively , playful fancy heightens the charm of the whole.

Explain:-

The Rape of the Lock

1. What dire offence from am'rous causes springs,
What mighty contests rise from trivial things,
2. Now lap-dogs give themselves the rousing shake,
And sleepless lovers, just at twelve, awake:
3. Know then, unnumber'd spirits round thee fly,
The light militia of the lower sky;
4. These, though unseen, are ever on the wing,
Hang o'er the box, and hover round the Ring.
5. Think not, when woman's transient breath is fled,
That all her vanities at once are dead;
Succeeding vanities she still regards,
And tho' she plays no more, o'erlooks the cards.
6. With varying vanities, from ev'ry part,
They shift the moving toyshop of their heart;
Where wigs with wigs, with sword-knots sword-knots strive,
Beaux banish beaux, and coaches coaches drive.
7. This erring mortals levity may call,
Oh blind to truth! the Sylphs contrive it all.
Of these am I, who thy protection claim,
A watchful sprite, and Ariel is my name.
8. I saw, alas! some dread event impend,
Ere to the main this morning sun descend,

But Heav'n reveals not what, or how, or where:
Warn'd by the Sylph, oh pious maid, beware!

9. A heav'nly image in the glass appears,
To that she bends, to that her eyes she rears;
Th' inferior priestess, at her altar's side,
Trembling, begins the sacred rites of pride.

10. This casket India's glowing gems unlocks,
And all Arabia breathes from yonder box.
Here files of pins extend their shining rows,
Puffs, powders, patches, bibles, billet-doux.

11. On her white breast a sparkling cross she wore,
Which Jews might kiss, and infidels adore.
Her lively looks a sprightly mind disclose,
Quick as her eyes, and as unfix'd as those:

12. This nymph, to the destruction of mankind,
Nourish'd two locks, which graceful hung behind
In equal curls, and well conspir'd to deck
With shining ringlets the smooth iv'ry neck.

13. With hairy springes we the birds betray,
Slight lines of hair surprise the finney prey,
Fair tresses man's imperial race ensnare,
And beauty draws us with a single hair.

14. he had implor'd
Propitious Heav'n, and ev'ry pow'r ador'd,
But chiefly love—to love an altar built,
Of twelve vast French romances, neatly gilt.

15. "To fifty chosen Sylphs, of special note,
We trust th' important charge, the petticoat:
Oft have we known that sev'n-fold fence to fail,
Though stiff with hoops, and arm'd with ribs of whale.

16. Or, as Ixion fix'd, the wretch shall feel
The giddy motion of the whirling mill,
In fumes of burning chocolate shall glow,
And tremble at the sea that froths below!"

17. Here thou, great Anna! whom three realms obey,
Dost sometimes counsel take—and sometimes tea.

18. he hungry judges soon the sentence sign,

And wretches hang that jury-men may dine;

19. The merchant from th' Exchange returns in peace,
And the long labours of the toilet cease.

20. He watch'd th' ideas rising in her mind,
Sudden he view'd, in spite of all her art,
An earthly lover lurking at her heart.

21. The peer now spreads the glitt'ring forfex wide,
T' inclose the lock; now joins it, to divide.
Ev'n then, before the fatal engine clos'd,
A wretched Sylph too fondly interpos'd;