

## English Literature

1. Compare and contrast *Beowulf* and Chaucer's works with other texts of your choice to (1) define "English literature" in the Middle Ages and (2) argue whether *Beowulf* and Chaucer are representative of medieval English literature. (25%)
2. "Space is not merely a geographically or architecturally static entity. Space is also an abstraction, a culturally constructed ideology which combines both location and social relations." Use the above statement as the basis to discuss the notion of space in *Utopia*, *Twelfth Night*, *Paradise Lost* and *A Modest Proposal*. (25%)
3. In what sense can romanticism be described as "humanistic"? Elaborate in detail and illustrate it with specific literary texts. (20%)
4. Identify the following passage, explain its meaning and show how it typifies literary modernism. (20%)

Unreal City,  
Under the brown fog of a winter dawn,  
A crowd flowed over London Bridge, so many,  
I had not thought death had undone so many.  
Sighs, short and infrequent, were exhaled,  
And each man fixed his eyes before his feet.  
Flowed up the hill and down King William Street,  
To where Saint Mary Woolnoth kept the hours  
With a dead sound on the final stroke of nine.  
There I saw one I knew, and stopped him, crying: "Stetson!  
You who were with me in the ships at Mylae!  
That corpse you planted last year in your garden,  
Has it begun to sprout? Will it bloom this year?  
Or has the sudden frost disturbed its bed?  
Oh keep the Dog far hence, that's friend to men,  
Or with his nails he'll dig it up again!  
You! Hypocrite lecteur!—mon semblable—mon frère!"
5. Discuss William Makepeace Thackeray's classic novel *Vanity Fair* in its adaptation into a Hollywood film. (10%)