



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL
B.A. Honours 2nd Semester Examination, 2020

CC4-ENGLISH

BRITISH LITERATURE: OLD ENGLISH PERIOD TO 14TH CENTURY

Full Marks: 60

ASSIGNMENT

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

1. Answer any **one** of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
 - (a) Briefly discuss, in a comparative mode, the contributions of King Alfred and Aelfric to the development of early English prose.
 - (b) The Old English poetry which has received the most attention deals with the Germanic Heroic past — Do you agree? Argue your answer.
 - (c) Illustrate the resurgence of alliterative verse during the so-called ‘Alliterative Revival’.

2. Answer any **one** of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
 - (a) Heroic idealism has been brilliantly delineated through the character of Beowulf. Discuss.
 - (b) Do you think that *Beowulf* reveals to us the culture and society of the Germanic peoples? Give a reasoned answer.

3. Answer any **one** of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
 - (a) Consider the Prologue to *The Wife of Bath’s Tale* as a critique of patriarchy.
 - (b) Would you consider *Piers the Ploughman* as a theological poem? Elaborate.

—x—