



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL
B.A. Honours 4th Semester Examination, 2020

CC8-ENGLISH

BRITISH LITERATURE: 18TH CENTURY

Full Marks: 60

ASSIGNMENT

*The questions are of equal value.
The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

1. Answer any *two* questions: (700-750 words) 20×2 = 40
 - (a) Choose a major character in *The Way of the World*. Say why that character is important to the theme and plot. How is that character significant in relation to other characters in the play? How does the character's role add to the overall comic effect? Refer directly to dramatic lines of the text in your analysis. 20
 - (b) In his satire Swift makes a correlation between size and morality. Analyze how this works in the Travels, paying particular attention to Gulliver in the land of Lilliput and in Brobdingnag. 20
 - (c) Crusoe is captured and made a slave, but he still makes plans to get slaves from Africa for his plantation. What are Crusoe's views about slavery and how is slavery as a submerged theme present in Robinson Crusoe? 20
 - (d) Robinson Crusoe, and Gulliver — each character is given, by his author, a mission of sorts: Crusoe's is to instruct the reader in how to live; Gulliver's is to make the reader laugh at human foibles. Compare and contrast both the novels in the light of this observation. 20

2. Answer any *one* question: (700-750 words) 20×1 = 20
 - (a) How does Gray speak about death as an equalizer of all human beings in order to level distinctions between the upper class and the lower class in the poem *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*? In doing so, why and how he glorifies and idealizes the humble life of villagers and their uncorrupt simple characters? 20
 - (b) Analyze Samuel Johnson's *London*, as an invigorating reworking of Juvenal's third satire as a criticism of the decadence of contemporary Britain. 20

—x—