

**MASTER'S DEGREE IN
ENGLISH (MEG)**

Term-End Examination

June, 2026

MEG-003 : THE BRITISH NOVEL

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : (i) *Attempt any **five** questions.*

(ii) *All questions carry equal marks.*

1. Fielding's *Tom Jones* has an episodic structure. Comment on the role of the narrator in this structure. 20
2. "In *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen considers whether a meaningful love

relationship that leads to marriage, is actually possible in the society of her time.”

Discuss this statement. 20

3. Most of the characters in *Wuthering Heights* describe Heathcliff as ‘the evil beast’, as ‘uncivilized’ and ‘without refinement’. Do you think such judgements of Heathcliff are justified ? 20
4. The Victorian ideals of ‘self-improvement’ and ‘gentlemanliness’ are central themes in the plot of *Great Expectations*. Discuss. 20
5. Explain how *Middlemarch* engages with the theme of reform. 20
6. According to Chinua Achebe, Conrad presents Africans in *Heart of Darkness* as ‘degraded and dehumanized figures’. Do you agree with Achebe’s statement ? 20

7. Consider *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* as an 'aesthetic biography.' 20
8. Discuss the major themes of *A Passage to India*. 20
9. Briefly discuss the narrative techniques adopted by Muriel Spark in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. 20

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