

SOUTH EASTERN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

**SECOND YEAR EXAMINATIONS IN BACHELOR OF ARTS (EXTERNAL) – 2007 / 2008
HELD IN AUGUST - 2008**

ENG 2.11 – CLASSICAL ENGLISH POETRY (ROMANTIC & VICTORIAN)

Answer any five questions.

Time : 03 Hours

1. “Blake is a social critic”. Discuss this statement in relation to the poem ‘London’.
2. “Wordsworth believes that poetry should depict the relationship between man and nature”. Discuss this statement in relation to at least three of Wordsworth’s poems.
3. Coleridge’s “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner” can be interpreted as both
 - a. a spiritual allegory, of the orthodox Christian progression through sin, repentance, punishment, and redemption, and
 - b. a Romantic version of the fall of humanity, focusing on man’s relationship with nature.Choose one of these ideas and explain, with support for this interpretation.
4. Explain how Shelley’s ‘Ode to the West Wind’ explores death and rebirth on both the human and the divine levels.
5. “Keat’s poetry deals with contrasting experiences such as sorrow and bliss, art and reality, death and immortality.” Discuss the relevance of this statement in relation to his Odes.
6. What aspects of human life does Wordsworth deal with in his poem ‘I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud’?
7. ‘The Lady of Shalott’ has most commonly been interpreted as a poem about the relationship between art and life. How can the Lady's story be interpreted in these terms? Do you find this interpretation convincing?
8. Both Shelley’s ‘Ozymandias’ and Keats’ ‘Ode on a Grecian Urn’ are concerned with the relationship between the temporal world and artistic creations. Choose one of these poems and explain what the poem says about the temporal world, artistic creation, and artistic permanence.