

TM201210TR

Reg. No : .....

Name : .....

M. A. DEGREE (C.S.S.) EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2021  
(2020 Admissions Improvement & Supplementary ]  
SEMESTER I - CORE COURSE ( ENGLISH )  
EN1C01TM20 - CHAUCER AND THE ROOTS OF ENGLISH

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Weight : 30

**Part A**

**I. Answer any Eight questions. Each question carries 1 weight**

**(8x1=8)**

1. Formulate the significance of the Romance Languages.
2. Describe the major Anglo-Saxon Dialects.
3. Illustrate the four main grammatical cases in the Old English language.
4. Give examples to validate the presence of Scandinavian loanwords in everyday life.
5. Identify the two biblical allusions repeated in the story of *Beowulf*.
6. Identify the main prose writers of the Old English period.
7. Indicate the major reason for many of the vagaries and inconsistencies of English spelling.
8. Write a brief note on Wycliffe.
9. Translate into idiomatic Modern English: Bifil that in that seson on a day, In Southwerk at the Tabard as I lay Redy to wenden on my pilgrimage To Caunterbury with ful devout corage, At nyght was come into that hostelrye Wel nyne and twenty in a compaignye Of sondry folk...
10. Translate into idiomatic Modern English: And though he was smote, he was wys And of his port as meeke as is mayde. He nevere yet no vileyne nesayde In all hislyf unto no manner Wight, He was a verray parfit gentil knight.

**Part B**

**II. Answer any Six questions. Each question carries 2 weight**

**(6x2=12)**

11. Describe the significance of the Danelaw.
12. Compare and contrast the Balto-Slavic languages.
13. Describe briefly the Great Vowel Shift.
14. Examine the importance of Grimm's Law.
15. Discuss the Pagan and Christian elements in *Beowulf*.
16. Explain the factors that led to the standardization of English spelling.
17. Explain why Chaucer is linked to the birth of English literature.
18. How is Chauntecleer a round character in the "The Nun's Priest's Tale"?

**Part C**

**III. Answer any Two questions. Each question carries 5 weight**

**(2x5=10)**

19. Assess the importance of foreign influence on the growth of Old English vocabulary.
20. Critically examine whether the heroic code in *Beowulf* has a conflict with a Christian sensibility.
21. The translation of the Bible into English has a long and rich history, paralleling closely the major stages of development of the language itself. Discuss.
22. "The Prologue to The Canterbury Tales" is a prologue to modern fiction. Justify.

