



LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – ENGLISH LITERATURE

SECOND SEMESTER – APRIL 2014

EL 2956/2954 - ECOPOETICS

Date : 08/04/2014
Time : 09:00-12:00

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

SECTION-A

I Answer any EIGHT of the following questions in about 75 words each: (8x5=40)

1. What are the fundamental principles of ecocriticism?
2. What is Deep Ecology? Give examples.
3. What are the obligations of human beings towards Mother Earth according to the Declaration?
4. Write a poem on the topic 'Inherent Rights of Mother Earth'.
5. Explain 'Vasudeiva Kudumbakam'.
6. Comment on the lines by Rabindranath Tagore:
"I asked the tree
Speak to me about God
And it blossomed."
7. Define Ecocriticism. How is it otherwise known in the other parts of the world?
8. Explain 'Chaos Theory' and relate it with any natural catastrophe you may know.
9. A wise old monk in 'The Brothers Karamozav' says "Love all God's creation, the whole and every grain of sand in it... Evil environment is mighty, and we are lonely and helpless." Do you agree with the view? If so, why?
10. Dr. Abdul Kalam has famously said, "If plants can grow together, why not humans?" Elucidate.

II Attempt any THREE of the following questions in about 150 words each: (3x10=30)

11. Write a review of the documentary, 'Animals are Beautiful People' from an eco-critical perspective.
12. Discuss Karen Warren's theory of ecofeminism.
13. Attempt a brief study of Thoreau's 'Environmental Imagination'.
14. Write an ecocritical appreciation of any one of the following popular films\docu-film:
 - i) Home
 - ii) Life of Pi
 - iii) Kumki
 - iv) Pole to Pole

III Applied Criticism: (2x15=30)

15. Identify and elaborate on the 'oikos'/ 'oikos'es found in the following extract. Compare and contrast it with other texts you have studied.

Was it because his people were one with nature that they were untouched by progress, Krishnan wondered. He felt that their society was a reasonably contented one. Certain that there was nothing more to life than tilling the soil and cultivating it, praying, eating, living with women and having children by them, they craved for nothing more. Earlier, Krishnan had not believed that this contentment was a barrier to progress. The word progress had meant nothing to him then. He felt differently now. Not thirsting for anything else in life had prevented his people from reaching great heights and enjoying so many pleasures. What joy he had found in learning and acquiring knowledge! A man who learnt to think because of his education used his time productively.

16. Find the Green Density Measurement (GDM) of the following text, applying the formula. Comment on the Green Attitude of the text:

The Prelude- William Wordsworth

One summer evening (led by her) I found
A little boat tied to a willow tree
Within a rocky cave, its usual home.
Straight I unloosed her chain, and stepping in
Pushed from the shore. It was an act of stealth
And troubled pleasure, nor without the voice
Of mountain-echoes did my boat move on;
Leaving behind her still, on either side,
Small circles glittering idly in the moon,
Until they melted all into one track
Of sparkling light. But now, like one who rows,
Proud of his skill, to reach a chosen point
With an unswerving line, I fixed my view
Upon the summit of a craggy ridge,
The horizon's utmost boundary; far above
Was nothing but the stars and the grey sky.
She was an elfin pinnace; lustily
I dipped my oars into the silent lake,
And, as I rose upon the stroke, my boat
Went heaving through the water like a swan;
When, from behind that craggy steep till then
The horizon's bound, a huge peak, black and huge,
As if with voluntary power instinct,
Upreared its head. I struck and struck again,
And growing still in stature the grim shape
Towered up between me and the stars, and still,
For so it seemed, with purpose of its own

And measured motion like a living thing,
Strode after me. With trembling oars I turned,
And through the silent water stole my way
Back to the covert of the willow tree;
There in her mooring-place I left my bark,--
And through the meadows homeward went, in grave
And serious mood; but after I had seen
That spectacle, for many days, my brain
Worked with a dim and undetermined sense
Of unknown modes of being; o'er my thoughts
There hung a darkness, call it solitude
Or blank desertion. No familiar shapes
Remained, no pleasant images of trees,
Of sea or sky, no colours of green fields;
But huge and mighty forms, that do not live
Like living men, moved slowly through the mind
By day, and were a trouble to my dreams.
