
Contents

● Previous Years' Solved Papers	
1. Chaucer To Shakespeare	3-92
● The Age of Chaucer	3
● Life of Geoffrey Chaucer (1340-1400)	6
● Main Poetical Works of Chaucer	7
● Chaucer's Realism	11
● Chaucer-The Realist	12
● Chaucer's Art of Characterisation	15
● Chaucer as a Narrative Poet	19
● Chaucer's Humour	21
● Chaucer's Language	24
● Chaucer's Versification	25
● Chaucer as a Satirist and an Ironist	26
● Chaucer as the Poet of the People	27
● Chaucer as the Father of English Poetry	28
● Chaucer's Humanity	29
● Chaucer's Contribution to English Language and Versification	30
● Examination of Matthew Arnold's Criticism of Chaucer	32
● Chaucer's Place in English Literature	33
● Development of Poetry in the Age of Chaucer	34
● England as a Satirist and Social Reformer	39
● Scottish Chaucerians	42
● Other Poets from 1579 to 1625	44
● The Age of Shakespeare (1516-1600)	45
● Sir Thomas Wyatt (1503-42) and Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey (1516-47)	48
● Spenser's Faerie Queen as an Epic	49
● Sonnets and Sonneteers	51

● The University Wits	54
● Shakespeare's Life (1564-1616)	56
● The Eternal Shakespeare	57
● Fiction	66
● Non-Fiction	68
● Multiple Choice Questions	70
2. Jacobean To Restoration Periods	93-141
● Dominant Tendencies in the Jacobean and Caroline Drama	98
● The Contribution of the Post-Shakespearean Dramatists of the Jacobean Period	100
● The Puritan Age : Social Background	109
● John Milton and Epic Poetry	116
● John Dryden (1631-1700)	121
● Eminent Writers of The Comedy of Manners	124
● Multiple Choice Questions	127
3. Augustan Age : 18th Century Literature	142-189
● Alexander Pope (1688-1744)	145
● The Pre-Romantics	155
● Minor Poets of the Revival	158
● Daniel Defoe (1661-1731)	168
● Samuel Richardson (1689-1761)	170
● Henry Fielding (1707-1754)	171
● Smollett and Sterne	172
● Multiple Choice Questions	175
4. Romantic Period	190-238
● Romanticism	190
● Characteristics of the Romantic Poetry	192
● Literary Characteristics of the Age	193
● The Poets of Romanticism	196
● Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)	199
● Robert Southey (1774-1843)	204
● Walter Scott (1771-1832)	204
● George Gordon, Lord Byron (1788-1824)	206
● Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822)	207

● John Keats (1795-1821)	209
● Prose Writers of the Romantic Period	211
● Charles Lamb (1775-1834)	212
● Thomas De Quincey (1785-1859)	213
● Walter Savage Landor (1775-1864)	215
● The Essay in the Eighteenth Century	222
● Wordsworth and Coleridge	224
● Multiple Choice Questions	226
5. Victorian Period	239–299
● Literary Tendencies of the Victorian Age	242
● Alfred Tennyson (1809-1892)	248
● Robert Browning (1812-1889)	251
● Minor Poets of the Victorian Age	255
● The Novelists of the Victorian Age	258
● Mary Ann Evans, George Eliot (1819-1880)	263
● Minor Novelists of the Victorian Age	265
● Essayists of the Victorian Age	268
● Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881)	270
● John Ruskin (1819-1900)	273
● Matthew Arnold (1822-1888)	275
● John Henry Newman (1801-1890)	277
● George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950)	282
● Multiple Choice Questions	288
6. Modern Period	300–362
● Tradition and Experiment in Modern Poetry	300
● Modern Poetry	303
● Georgian Poets and Poetry	306
● Modern Novel	317
● The Experimentalists and Innovators	325
● Twentieth Century Drama	327
● Main Characteristics and Features of Twentieth Century Drama	328
● Multiple Choice Questions	346

7. Contemporary Period	363–403
● Poetry	364
● The Neo-Romanticism	378
● Prose	381
● Contemporary Age in an Era of Prose and Journalism	382
● Drama	387
● Multiple Choice Questions	392
8. American and Other Non-British Literatures	404–498
● American Literature	404
● Nineteenth Century American Literature	405
● American Literature in the Twentieth Century	415
● Commonwealth Literature	427
● Canadian Literature	427
● Australian Literature	430
● African Literature	432
● New Zealand Literature	434
● Indian English Literature	435
● The Era of Political Awakening (1901-1947)	438
● The Development of Poetry	440
● Eminent Poets of the Seventies and Eighties	451
● Indian English Poetry from 1990-2005	454
● The Pioneers of Prose (1820-1900)	457
● Towards the Dawn (1901-1947)	458
● The Era of Independence	461
● Some Contemporary Writers	463
● The Era of Awakening or Freedom Struggle	464
● The Dawn of Independence	466
● Women Novelists	472
● Indian English Drama after Independence	476
● Some Eminent Playwrights	477
● Multiple Choice Questions	480

9. Literary Theory and Criticism	499–546
● Plato (427 B.C. - 347 B.C.)	499
● Aristotle (384 B.C.-322 B.C.)	500
● Longinus, “The First Romantic Critic”	503
● Dante (1265-1321)	506
● The Renaissance Criticism in England	506
● Neo-Classicism in English Literary Criticism	508
● The Romantic Criticism	512
● Victorian Criticism	515
● Matthew Arnold	517
● Modern Criticism	518
● Contemporary Criticism	524
● Basic Principles of the New Criticism	524
● Structuralism and Post-Structuralism	525
● Feminist Criticism	528
● History or Ideology?	531
● Multiple Choice Questions	532
10. Rhetoric and Prosody	547–580
● Rhetoric	547
● Prosody	549
● The Stanza	552
● Rhyme and Kindred Devices	553
● Assonance and Alliteration	553
● Types of Poetry	555
● Features of 20th Century English Poetry	564
● The Decline : Tradition and Innovation	565
● Multiple Choice Questions	571
Model Set (Multiple Choice Questions)	1–40
● Model Set–1	3
● Model Set–2	9
● Model Set–3	15
● Model Set–4	20
● Model Set–5	25
● Model Set–6	30
● Model Set–7	35