Examination Period 3: 2016/17

LIT302517N

Module Title Renaissance Literature
Level Six
Time Allowed Two hours

Instructions to students:

- Enter your student number not your name on all answer books.
- Answer two out of ten questions.
- At least one of your answers must be wholly on non-dramatic poetry.
- Do not discuss the same text in more than one answer.
- All questions are equally weighted.
- Begin each question in a separate answer book; label each answer book clearly with the number of the question you are answering.
- Do not repeat points made, or texts discussed, in earlier assessed work.
- Students are not permitted to remove this examination paper from the examination room. For all purposes the examination paper remains the property of the University of Northampton.

No. of Pages 3
No. of Questions 10

Page 1 of 3
Answer two out of ten questions.

At least one of your answers must be wholly on non-dramatic poetry.

Note

1. Analyse the representation of love in Renaissance lyric poetry, referring closely to at least three lyric poems.

2. Explore the use of humour in the metaphysical conceit, referring closely to at least three metaphysical poems.

3. ‘Renaissance literature is pre-realistic. We would be wrong to take anything it has to say literally.’ Discuss, referring closely to one or two longer texts, or at least three lyric poems, or one longer text and any number of lyric poems.

4. What is distinctive about the story-telling technique of Renaissance epic poems? In your answer, refer closely to The Faerie Queene and/or Paradise Lost.

5. ‘For a time of “re-birth”, Renaissance literature is surprisingly conservative.’ Discuss, referring closely to one or two longer texts, or at least three lyric poems, or one longer text and any number of lyric poems.

6. Explore analytically the function of ‘character’ in Renaissance literature. In your answer, refer closely to one or two longer texts.

7. How far would you agree that the use of voices in Renaissance literature creates complex meanings, rather than simplicity of interpretation? In your answer, refer closely to one or two longer texts, or at least three lyric poems, or one longer text and any number of lyric poems.
8. ‘Shakespearian comedies are entertainments, pure and simple.’ Evaluate this reading, referring closely to Twelfth Night and/or The Tempest.

9. In what ways does Renaissance tragedy explore areas of experience which go beyond language? In your answer, refer closely to King Lear and/or The Duchess of Malfi.

10. Discuss one of the following in Renaissance literature: language, power, the lyric persona, love, patriotism, religion, humanism, interpretation, death, laughter. In your answer, refer closely to one or two longer texts, or at least three lyric poems, or one longer text and any number of lyric poems.

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