

Question Bank
English
Core –2

Short Questions :-

1. Who are some of the key poets associated with the metaphysical poetry movement in the 17th century, and what are the defining characteristics of their work?
2. How does metaphysical poetry often explore complex and abstract themes, such as the nature of love, the relationship between the physical and spiritual, and the use of elaborate conceits?
3. Can you provide an example of a metaphysical poem and analyze how it uses unconventional metaphors or ideas to convey its message or emotions?
4. Who were some of the prominent poets associated with the Cavalier poetry movement in the 17th century, and what were the key themes and characteristics of their poetry?
5. Discuss the contrast between Cavalier poetry and Metaphysical poetry in terms of style, themes, and worldview. What sets these two poetic movements apart?
6. What is the central concept of the Comedy of Humours in Elizabethan and Jacobean drama, and how did playwrights like Ben Jonson use this concept to create comedic characters and situations?
7. Analyze the role of exaggerated character traits and the idea of “humours” in the Comedy of Humours. How do these elements contribute to the humor and social commentary in plays of this genre?
8. Who is the eponymous “Lycidas” in Milton’s poem, and what is the central event that the poem mourns?
9. How does Milton use the pastoral tradition in “Lycidas,” and what role do natural elements like the sea and shepherds play in the poem?
10. What themes of loss, grief, and the search for meaning are present in “Lycidas,” and how does Milton address these themes through his elegiac verse?
11. Discuss the influence of religion and faith in “Lycidas.” How does the poem grapple with questions of divine providence and theodicy in the face of tragedy?
12. What historical event does “All for Love” draw inspiration from, and how does it differ from Shakespeare’s “Antony and Cleopatra”?
13. Who are the central characters in “All for Love,” and how do their relationships and conflicts drive the plot of the play?
14. Explore the theme of love in “All for Love.” How do Antony and Cleopatra’s love and devotion for each other play a significant role in the story?
15. Discuss the character of Octavius Caesar in the play. What are his motivations and how does he contribute to the unfolding of events?
16. In what ways does Dryden adapt and modernize Shakespearean themes and language in “All for Love,” and what unique elements does he bring to the tragic love story of Antony and Cleopatra?
17. Who is the central character in “Volpone,” and what motivates him to carry out elaborate deceptions and schemes throughout the play?
18. How does the theme of greed and materialism manifest in “Volpone,” and what do the characters’ actions and desires reveal about their values?
19. What role do the secondary characters, such as Mosca and Lady Would-be, play in advancing the plot and highlighting the satire and humor in the play?
20. Write few features of Restoration age.

Long questions:-

1. Examine the character of Volpone in detail. What drives his obsession with deception and greed, and how does his character evolve throughout the play?

2. Discuss the theme of deception in "Volpone." How do characters like Volpone, Mosca, and Voltore employ deceit, and what are the consequences of their actions?
3. Analyze the role of Mosca in the play. How does he serve as both a cunning servant and a central figure in the unfolding plot?
4. What is the nature of his relationship with Volpone? Explore the theme of satire in "Volpone." In what ways does Jonson use humor and irony to criticize social and moral aspects of the society of his time?
5. Discuss the significance of the subplot involving Sir Politic Would-be and Lady Would-be. How do their characters and actions contribute to the overall themes and satire of the play?
6. How does "Volpone" address the theme of justice and comeuppance? Do the characters receive fitting punishments for their actions, or is there a sense of moral ambiguity in the play?
7. Examine the role of the courtroom scene in the play's resolution. How does the trial of Volpone and his accomplices reflect the themes of justice, deception, and the corrupt legal system?
8. Consider the role of disguise and role-playing in "Volpone." How do characters assume false identities, and what does this reveal about the fluidity of identity and the masks people wear in society?
9. Discuss the treatment of women in "Volpone." How are female characters like Celia and Lady Would-be portrayed, and what commentary does the play offer on gender roles and expectations of the time?
10. Analyze the overall message or moral lessons conveyed by "Volpone." What commentary does the play make about human nature, greed, and the consequences of unethical behavior?
11. Compare and contrast the character of Mark Antony in "All for Love" with the portrayal of Antony in Shakespeare's "Antony and Cleopatra." How does Dryden's depiction differ and what thematic changes are evident?
12. Discuss the character of Cleopatra in "All for Love." How does she challenge conventional gender roles of her time, and what makes her a compelling tragic heroine in the play?
13. Explore the theme of political power and ambition in "All for Love." How does the struggle for power between Octavius Caesar and Antony drive the plot and shape the characters' decisions?
14. Analyse the concept of "duty" in the play. How do characters like Antony, Ventidius, and Octavia grapple with their sense of duty to the state and to personal desires?
15. Discuss the role of love in "All for Love." How does the love between Antony and Cleopatra impact their lives and ultimately lead to tragedy?
16. Examine the character of Ventidius and his relationship with Antony. How does Ventidius serve as a foil to Antony, and what is the significance of his loyalty and sacrifice?
17. Consider the use of rhetoric and eloquence in the play. How do Antony's and Cleopatra's speeches and declarations of love and loyalty reveal their characters and influence the course of events?
18. Discuss the role of Enobarbus in "All for Love." How does his character provide insight into Antony and Cleopatra's relationship, and what is the emotional impact of his betrayal?
19. Analyse the ending of "All for Love." How does it differ from Shakespeare's "Antony and Cleopatra," and what message or moral lesson does Dryden convey through the conclusion of the play?

20. Examine the significance of the title "All for Love." How does it encapsulate the central themes and conflicts of the play, and what is Dryden's commentary on the nature of love and sacrifice?