ST MARY’S UNIVERSITY

TWICKENHAM, LONDON

BA/BSc Degree Examination students registered for

Level **FIVE**

Title: **English Literature and its Background, 1776-1832**

Code: **ENG5002**

Semester: **Resit**

Date: **4th July 2019**

Time: **09:30-11:30 AM**

TIME ALLOWED: **TWO** HOURS

Answer **TWO** questions. Each question is worth 50% of the marks.

You have two hours in which to complete the paper.

Please mark clearly on your answer book which questions you are attempting.

All questions carry equal marks.

1) *either*

1. ‘The Imagination may be compared to Adam's dream - he awoke and found it truth’. John Keats, 1818.

Discuss Keats’ famous description of the ‘Imagination’ with regard to Keats’ own work, or with regard to any other writers of the ‘Romantic’ period.

*Or*

1. Here, where men sit and hear each other groan;

Where palsy shakes a few, sad, last gray hairs,

Where youth grows pale, and spectre-thin, and dies;

Where but to think is to be full of sorrow…

John Keats, ‘Ode to a Nightingale’.

To what degree do you think the writing of Keats or that of any other romantic-period writer(s) is born out of sorrow?

2) *either*

1. ‘I want a hero: an uncommon want,

When every year and month send s forth a new one’

(Byron, *Don Juan*)

In what ways did Byron or any other romantic-period writer create a new sort of hero?

*or*

b. ‘Byron’s poetry comes from a pessimistic view of the world, both personally and politically.’

Do you agree? Discuss this statement with regard to a selection of Byron’s verse.

3) *either*

1. In what ways is P B Shelley’s use of ‘nature’ politicised?

*or*

1. How is the figure of the ‘poet’ represented in the poetry of P B Shelley, or in any other romantic-period writing?

4) ‘Far from being pale imitators of their male counterparts, women writers of the romantic period were genuine innovators in theme and style, and with their own story to tell.’

Discuss this comment with regard to a selection of romantic-period writing by women.

5) To what degree do you think an ‘eco-critical’ or ‘environmentalist’ approach helpful to your reading of romantic-period writing? In your answer, you may refer to the work of a range or writers or concentrate on one.

6) Discuss the ways in which any romantic-period writer or writers critique the ‘Romanticism’ of other writers.

7) ‘In the final analysis, the romantics converted political or revolutionary energy into poetic beauty and reflections on personal experience. Romanticism is, then, highly conservative.’

How far do you agree with this statement with reference to one or more romantic-period writers?

**END OF EXAMINATION**