

A18053

No calculator permitted in this examination

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

College of Arts and Law
School of English, Drama and American & Canadian Studies
Department of English

Degree of B.A. with Honours
Single Honours. First Examination
Joint Honours. First Examination
English with Creative Writing. First Examination
English and American Literature. First Examination
English Major. First Examination
English Minor. First Examination

Literature Foundation Paper 2: Wider Reading
09 16582/3

Summer Examinations 2009

Three hours

Answer THREE questions, TWO from Section A and ONE from Section B. Credit will be given for appropriate breadth of reference. You must not write on the same text in more than one answer on this paper.

TURN OVER

Section A: Answer TWO of the following questions:

1. The 'world of the dream vision' has been described as 'a temporary other world of imaginative freedom' (Marion Turner). Explore Chaucer's *The Parlement of Foulys* in the light of this comment.
2. 'Nor is the moving of laughter always the end of comedy' (Ben Jonson). Discuss the importance of laughter in the comedy of *Twelfth Night* and/or *Volpone*.
3. In what ways does the construction of the central persona determine the reader's response to Swift's *Verses on the Death of Dr Swift* and/or Pope's *Epistle to Arbuthnot*?
4. 'The novelist's difficulty [...] is to secure a lively enough interest in the heroine' (D.W. Harding). Do you agree with this interpretation of *Persuasion*?
5. 'Yes indeed, which was truth and which was illusion, I asked myself?' (Woolf, *A Room of One's Own*). Discuss Woolf's treatment of truth and illusion in *To The Lighthouse* and/or *A Room of One's Own*.

Section B: Answer the following question, supporting your argument with reference to AT LEAST TWO texts, which should NOT be among the focal texts for the course. Your answer should show how your understanding of literary texts has changed and/or been challenged as a result of what you have learnt during Literature Foundation. You must not refer substantially to a text that you have discussed in section A:

'Theory is subversive because it puts authority in question' (Stephen Bonnycastle). To what extent have your studies for Literature Foundation stimulated you to question authority in literature and/or literary interpretation?

END OF PAPER