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This unit targets Assessment Objective AO5i and also assesses AO1, AO2i, AO3 and AO4.

Answer ONE question.

1. HARDY: *The Return of the Native*

Either:

- (a) ‘Hardy’s central concern in *The Return of the Native* is the inevitable conflict between modern ideas and attitudes and a more traditional way of life.’

Do you agree?

Or:

- (b) ‘Hardy creates a world in which human beings are neither rewarded nor punished for their actions: they are simply at the mercy of chance.’

What is your response to this view?

Q1

(Total 50 marks)

2. SHELLEY: *Frankenstein*

Either:

- (a) ‘In *Frankenstein* Shelley creates and presents female characters who are essentially passive but also the chief upholders of moral standards.’

What is your response to this assessment?

Or:

- (b) ‘Shelley uses character, setting and plot to explore the complex relationship between nature and nurture.’

How do you respond to Shelley’s presentation of this ‘complex relationship’ in the novel as a whole?

Q2

(Total 50 marks)



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3. AUSTEN: *Emma*

Either:

- (a) ‘Austen presents the character of Mr Knightley with as much detachment as she does Emma; we should not see him as the representative of the writer’s own ideas and moral values.’

What is your response to this judgement?

Or:

- (b) ‘Austen creates in Highbury a society in which the upholding of social conventions is always more important than individual happiness or fulfilment.’

Do you agree?

Q3

(Total 50 marks)

4. DICKENS: *Hard Times*

Either:

- (a) ‘Mr Gradgrind’s realisation that there is “a wisdom of the Head and a wisdom of the Heart” powerfully reveals Dickens’s own attitudes and values.’

What is your response to this view?

Or:

- (b) ‘In *Hard Times* Dickens uses contrasting pairs of characters in order to explore questions of right and wrong.’

How do you respond to this judgement?

Q4

(Total 50 marks)



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5. JAMES: *Washington Square*

Either:

- (a) 'In *Washington Square* James shows the reader that the unscrupulous and superficial Morris is defeated by a superior moral sense.'

Do you agree with this assessment?

Or:

- (b) 'James creates in *Washington Square* a society based on external appearances which nevertheless conceals inner lives of insecurity and suffering.'

What is your response to this judgement?

Q5

(Total 50 marks)



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TOTAL FOR PAPER: 50 MARKS

END

Assessment Objectives for Unit 2 (6392): Pre-1900 Prose:

AO5i show understanding of the contexts in which literary texts are written and understood

AO1 communicate clearly the knowledge, understanding and insight appropriate to literary study, using appropriate terminology and accurate and coherent written expression

AO2i respond with knowledge and understanding to literary texts of different types and periods

AO3 show detailed understanding of the ways in which writers' choices of form, structure and language shape meanings

AO4 articulate independent opinions and judgements, informed by different interpretations of literary texts by other readers.

