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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) ‘In *The Return of the Native* Hardy above all explores the complex yet inevitable interaction of character and environment.’

What is your response to this view?

Or:

- (b) ‘In *The Return of the Native* Hardy explores the destructive effects of the pressures of society on those who will not conform or adapt.’

What is your response to this judgement?

Q1

(Total 50 marks)

2. SHELLEY: *Frankenstein*

Either:

- (a) ‘In *Frankenstein* Shelley offers a probing exploration of the nature of freedom and responsibility.’

What is your response to this view?

Or:

- (b) ‘Shelley presents in *Frankenstein* a shifting and conflict-driven world in which there are no stable moral guidelines.’

Do you agree with this interpretation?

Q2

(Total 50 marks)



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3. AUSTEN: *Emma*

Either:

- (a) 'In *Highbury*, Austen presents for the reader's approval an environment which crushes imagination and individuality.'

What is your response to this judgement?

Or:

- (b) 'What Austen celebrates above all in *Emma* is rational marriage as the foundation of a stable society.'

What is your response to this judgement?

Q3

(Total 50 marks)

4. DICKENS: *Hard Times*

Either:

- (a) 'In *Hard Times* Dickens suggests that true moral goodness lies only in individuals, and not in any system or organisation.'

Do you agree?

Or:

- (b) 'In *Hard Times* Dickens primarily explores the social rather than personal consequences of the lack of imagination and wonder.'

What is your response to this judgement?

Q4

(Total 50 marks)



5. **JAMES:** *Washington Square*

Either:

- (a) 'James suggests in *Washington Square* that a society in the midst of social and economic change will be based on cruelty rather than kindness.'

What is your response to this view?

Or:

- (b) 'In *Washington Square* James writes of "Catherine's moral purity", but what he reveals in the novel as a whole is that "moral purity" is valued less than superficial attractiveness.'

Do you agree?

(Total 50 marks)

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Q5



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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.

