

Examination Questions.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION, JULY, 1883.

SIR WALTER SCOTT AND MARMION.

[GENERAL.]

1. Write short notes about—
 - (a) Sir Walter's ancestors and their traits of character.
 - (b) Sir Walter's homes and his public offices.
 - (c) His studies and his tastes.
 - (d) His early poetical works and the source of their inspiration.
 - (e) His poems of maturer years, their subject, and date of publication. His four first-class prose works, the period which they portray, and the historical personages whom they describe.
 - (f) His six principal second-class prose novels in a similar way.
 - (g) The use of Sir Walter's novels.
 - (h) Sir Walter's deviations from historical accuracy.
 - (i) His power and weakness in portraying characters.
 - (j) His best characters.
 - (k) His business speculations.
 - (l) His morality, as taught by his life, books, and words.
2. Give in your own words an outline of "Marmion," and a pen-and-ink portrait of the principal characters as they appear to you.
3. Give an account of the preparations for battle, a plan of the disposition of the troops on both sides, incidents of the fight, and the death of Marmion, introducing appropriate quotations occasionally.
4. Finish the quotations begun below, explaining the point of the figures and the references or corrections.
 - (a) And much resembled that same knight,
Subdued by you in Cotswood fight.
 - (b) Oh, what a tangled web.
 - (c) The pheasant in the falcon's claw,
He scarce will yield to please a daw.
The falcon? the pheasant? the daw?
 - (d) As bends the bark's mast in the gale
When rent are rigging, shrouds, and sail,
It wavered 'mid the foes.
 - (e) O woman! in our hours of ease,
Uncertain, coy, and hard to please,
And variable as the shade
By the light, quivering aspen made;
When pain and anguish wring the brow
A ministering angel thou!
 - (f) I knew
That the dark presage must be true.
Mark the accented syllable in presage; explain its meaning and what Marmion meant.
 - (g) I would the Fiend, to whom belongs
The vengeance due to all her wrongs,
Would spare me but a day.
Why pray to the Fiend? What wrongs?
 - (h) In the lost battle, borne down by the flying,
Where mingles war's rattle with groans of the dying.
When were these words used? With regard to what? How do they come to Marmion?
 - (i) When Rowland brave, and Olivier,
And every paladin and peer,
On Roncesvalles died.
Explain the references.
 - (j) Afar, the Royal standard flies,
And round it toils and bleeds and dies
Our Caledonian pride.
Figures?
 - (k) Their dark impenetrable wood.
Cf. Lady of Lake. Figures?
 - (l) They melted from the field as snow,
When streams are swoll'n and south winds blow,
Dissolves in silent dew.
Figure and application?

- (m) Where shivered was fair Scotland's spear,
And broken was her shield.
- (n) With thy heart commune and be still.
If ever, in temptation strong,
Thou left'st the right path for the wrong,
If every devious step, thus trod,
Still led thee further from the road;
Dread thou to speak presumptuous doom
On noble Marmion's lowly tomb;
But say, "He died a gallant knight,
With sword in hand, for England's right."

BURKE AND HIS REFLECTIONS.

1. Mention the "live" public questions of Burke's day; explain the position which he took on each, the books written or speeches delivered by him on these subjects.
2. Account for the determined opposition which Burke offered to the progress of the French Revolution, shewing how far his sentiments in the "Reflections" are inconsistent with his utterances on the subject of the American Revolution, Wilkes' expulsion, Taxation, &c.
3. Briefly notice the characteristics of Burke's literary style as they have struck you, and the character of the man as it has appeared to you in reading the "Reflections."
4. (a) Describe the "mixed system of opinion and sentiment" commended by Burke, its origin, its influence, the cause and result of its overthrow, according to his view.
- (b) Name, after Burke, the "two principles of Europe and civilization." Criticise this view.
- (c) To what does Burke ascribe the prosperity of Europe in his day?
- (d) "All the decent drapery of life is to be rudely torn off." Explain the figure, showing what the "drapery" was, and to whom Burke imputed the design of tearing it off.
- (e) What words of withering scorn does Burke apply to the "new light and reason," and to the origin of this "barbarous philosophy?"
- (f) We have formerly had a king of France in that situation. Write this sentence correctly and explain the reference.
- (g) What benefits does Burke ascribe to "our sullen resistance to innovation, * * the cold sluggishness of our national character?" Criticise his views on this subject.
- (h) "Society is a contract." Explain and illustrate this sentiment.
- (i) Give Burke's views on the place of religion in the state, and the necessity for maintaining a state church, adding the comments of history, or of dissenting "Independents," on his arguments.
- (j) What are Burke's sentiments about "discoveries in morality?" How far do you consider his views correct?
- (k) What does Burke mean by "prejudice?" What advantages does he ascribe to it?
- (l) Criticise the statement: "It is the misfortune of this age that everything must be discussed."
- (m) What does Burke regard as the goal to be aimed at in cultivating the moral sense, and why does he regard "change" as fatal to it?
- (n) How should "the faults of the state" be remedied? and how did Burke exemplify this conviction in his public career?
- (o) "To make us love our country, our country must be lovely." In what sense did Burke make his country lovely, and in what other sense might it be made lovely?
- (p) On what separate grounds does Burke base his plea for supplying the offices of religion for the poor and for the rich?

Mr. Bright's address to the Glasgow students excited so much interest in the city, that 105,000 copies were sold of the local paper which contained a full report of the oration.—*Truth*.

The science of mind is neglected because its benefits are not immediately apparent, its attainments not capable of display.—*Mum*.