UNIVERSITETET
I OSLO

 Institutt for litteratur, områdestudium og europeiske språk

**WRITTEN EXAMINATION**

**2013/SPRING**

**2 pages**

**ENG2303** –  **British Literature in the Age of Enlightenment**

**Duration: 4 hours Thursday 30 May**

**You are allowed to use an English**–**English dictionary.**

**The question must be answered in English.**

**You must submit your paper only on copy-sheets.**

*Answer ONE question*

1. Which themes would you emphasize and which (if any) would you downplay in a modern production of Gay’s *The Beggar’s Opera*? Explain your choices.

*OR*

1. Write an essay analyzing both form and theme(s) in this extract from Pope’s *The Rape of the Lock* and relating the text (given below) to the context of the work as a whole.

 What dire offence from amorous causes springs,
What mighty contests rise from trivial things,
I sing -- This verse to Caryll, Muse! is due:
This, even Belinda may vouchsafe to view:
Slight is the subject, but not so the praise, 5
If she inspire, and he approve my lays.
 Say what strange motive, Goddess! could compel
A well-bred lord to assault a gentle belle?
Oh, say what stranger cause, yet unexplored,
Could make a gentle belle reject a lord? 10
In tasks so bold can little men engage,
And in soft bosoms dwells such mighty rage?
 Sol through white curtains shot a timorous ray,
And oped those eyes that must eclipse the day.
Now lapdogs give themselves the rousing shake, 15
And sleepless lovers, just at twelve, awake:
Thrice rung the bell, the slipper knocked the ground,
And the pressed watch returned a silver sound.
Belinda still her downy pillow pressed,
Her guardian Sylph prolonged the balmy rest. 20
'Twas he had summoned to her silent bed
The morning dream that hovered o'er her head.

*OR*

1. Write an essay analyzing these two paragraphs from *Gulliver’s Travels*, showing how they reflect Swift’s concerns and satirical strategies, and placing the text (given below) in the context of the work as a whole.

**I began** last Week to permit my Wife to sit at Dinner with me, at the farthest End of a long Table, and to answer (but with the utmost brevity) the few Questions I ask’d her. Yet the smell of a Yahoo continuing very offensive, I always keep my Nose well stopt with Rue, Lavender, or Tobacco-leaves. And although it be hard for a Man late in life to remove old Habits, I am not altogether out of Hopes in some time to suffer a Neighbour Yahoo in my Company without the Apprehensions I am yet under of his Teeth or his Claws.

**My** Reconcilement to the Yahoo-kind in general might not be so difficult if they would be content with those Vices and Follies only, which Nature hath intitled them to. I am not in the least provoked at the Sight of a Lawyer, a Pick-pocket, a Colonel, a Fool, a Lord, a Gamester, a Politician, a Whore-master, a Physician, an Evidence, a Suborner, an Attorney, a Traitor, or the like: This is all according to the due Course of Things: But when I behold a Lump of Deformity, and Diseases both in Body and Mind, smitten with Pride, it immediately breaks all the Measures of my Patience; neither shall I be ever able to comprehend how such an Animal and such a Vice could tally together. The wise and virtuous Houyhnhnms, who abound in all Excellencies that can adorn a Rational Creature, have no Name for this Vice in their Language, which hath no Terms to express any thing that is evil, except those whereby they describe the detestable Qualities of their Yahoos, among which they were not able to distinguish this of Pride, for want of thoroughly understanding Human Nature, as it sheweth itself in other Countries, where that Animal presides. But I, who had more Experience could plainly observe some Rudiments of it among the wild Yahoos.

**Explanation: For an explanation of the mark obtained, please contact the exam coordinator Kristin Berstad (****k.m.berstad@ilos.uio.no****) within one week after the exam result has been published in StudentWeb. Remember to include your name and candidate number. The examiner will then decide whether to give a written or oral explanation.**