

2021
ENGLISH
[HONOURS]
Paper : VIII

Full Marks : 100

Time : 4 Hours

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

Answer all the questions.

Section A is common for all candidates. Section B is to be answered, indicating which option is being answered.

SECTION – A

(Literary Theory and Critical Appreciation)

1. Make a critical appreciation of any **one** of the following: 15
 - a) In the highest as in the lowliest literature, then, the one indispensable beauty is, after all, truth:- truth to bare fact in the latter, as to some personal sense of fact, diverted somewhat from men's ordinary sense of it, in the former; truth there as accuracy, truth here as expression, that finest and most intimate form of truth, the vraie verite.

[Turn over]

And what an eclectic principle this really is! employing for its one sole purpose – that absolute accordance of expression to idea – all other literary beauties and excellences whatever: how many kinds of styles it covers, explains, justifies, and at the same time safeguards! Scott's facility, Flaubert's deeply pondered evocation of "the phrase", are equally good art. Say what you have to say, what you have a will to say, in the simplest, the most direct and exact manner possible, with no surplusage:- there, is the justification of the sentence so fortunately born, "entire, smooth, and round", that it needs no punctuation, and also (that is the point!) of the most elaborate period, if it be right in its elaboration. Here is the office of ornament: here also the purpose of restraint in ornament.

- b) Beyond all this, the wish to be alone:
 However the sky grows dark with invitation-cards
 However we follow the printed directions of sex
 However the family is photographed under the flagstaff –
 Beyond all this, the wish to be alone.
 Beneath it all, desire of oblivion runs:
 Despite the artful tensions of the calendar,

The life insurance, the tabled fertility rites,
The costly aversion of the eyes from death –
Beneath it all, desire of oblivion runs.

2. Answer any **five** of the following questions:

2×5=10

- a) Name one work by Roland Barthes.
- b) Who is the author of “The Second Sex”?
- c) What is meant by ‘metropolis’ in postcolonial theory?
- d) Name one novelist who writes in the postmodern mode.
- e) Is economy of expression a quality of the classic?
- f) Name one of the New Critics and a work by him.
- g) With whom did the Realistic novel rise in France?
- h) Who is known as the father of Structuralism?

3. Answer any **five** of the following questions:

5×5=25

- a) How does postmodernist literature create a reality of its own?
- b) What is the place of the nation in postcolonial theory?

- c) How did Structuralism seek to create a grammar of literature?
- d) In what ways may Naturalism differ from Realism?
- e) State in brief the parameters of a ‘classic’ work.
- f) What do New Critics emphasize while reading a poem?
- g) How does Realism treat subjective truths, and why?
- h) Define gynocriticism.

SECTION-B

(Literatures outside the UK)

Option B. (a): Indian Writing in English

4. Answer any **one** of the following questions:

15×1=15

- a) Discuss Rosie’s relationship with her husband Marco.
- b) How does the reader’s response to Raju progress with the novel? Discuss with reference to Raju’s career as a guide.

5. Answer any **ten** of the following questions:
 $2 \times 10 = 20$
- a) Where lies the secret of Japan's present glory, as Tagore says?
 - b) Where does India stand today, compared to Japan?
 - c) What does Swami Vivekananda say about going overseas?
 - d) Whom is Swami Vivekananda's "Reply to the Calcutta Address" addressed to?
 - e) How does Ruth's mother keep off her marriage?
 - f) What does Tagore see as the essence of western civilization?
 - g) With what prayer to Shankara does Swami Vivekananda end?
 - h) Why does Tughlaq decide to move his capital?
 - i) Who is Gunganarain in Kylas C Dutt's story?
 - j) What were Bhoobun Mohun's fears on the night of the first battle?
 - k) Where do Ruth and her family find shelter during the riots?
 - l) What was Kamala Das told about writing in English?
 - m) Who are the 'categorizers' in "An Introduction"?

- n) What did the mother do upon recovering from the scorpion's poison?
 - o) What animals are seen on the casuarina tree?
6. Answer any **three** of the following questions:
 $5 \times 3 = 15$
- a) Would you consider Javed Khan a villain?
 - b) How has Japan appropriated the best of the west?
 - c) How does the casuarina tree reappear in the poet's exile?
 - d) Make a sketch of the Queen in "Tughlaq".
 - e) How does Derozio's poem glorify India's past?
 - f) Describe the battle between Bhoobun Mohun and Lieutenant Martin.

Option B. (b): American English Literature

4. Answer any **one** of the following questions:
 $15 \times 1 = 15$
- a) How is California a symbolic presence in "The Grapes of Wrath"?
 - b) Make an assessment of Jim Casy in "The Grapes of Wrath".

5. Answer any **ten** of the following questions:

$2 \times 10 = 20$

- a) How important is the solitude of the live-oak in Louisiana?
- b) What does the sight of the live-oak remind Whitman of?
- c) Why does the Negro speak of Abe Lincoln on the Mississippi?
- d) How is the standing gull reflected in Frost's poem?
- e) What does Charlotte Perkins Gilman say of women's madness?
- f) What has the Negro done by the Nile?
- g) What is the shore of Walden Pond made of?
- h) What sounds does Thoreau hear while fishing at night?
- i) What is the situation of the old man in "The Tell-tale Heart"?
- j) What does the sound in "The Tell-tale Heart" drive the narrator to?
- k) What kind of a man is Robert Wilson?
- l) How is Margot responsible for her husband's death?

m) How does Walter Lee Younger want to use the insurance money?

n) What is Beneatha's attitude to Africa?

o) What does Joseph Asagai offer Beneatha?

6. Answer any **three** of the following questions:

$5 \times 3 = 15$

a) How is the theme of motherhood treated in "A Raisin in the Sun"?

b) How is the live-oak superior to the poet?

c) Does the stillness of the ponds impress Thoreau more, or the life within?

d) How does the house grow as a symbol in "A Raisin in the Sun"?

e) How does the old man's face appear to the narrator in "The Tell-tale Heart"?

f) Why could Dickinson not stop for Death?

Option B. (c): European Literature in Translation

4. Answer any **one** of the following questions:

$15 \times 1 = 15$

a) Examine "The Outsider" as a novel expressing Camus' philosophy.

b) Analyse Meursault's experiences of love to show how he arrives at his emotional conclusions.

5. Answer any **ten** of the following questions:

2×10=20

- a) How do the wind and shadows behave in “Autumn Day”?
- b) Where is the firewood falling in Baudelaire’s poem?
- c) How does Baudelaire compare his heart to the sun?
- d) Why does Maeterlinck see death as a positive change?
- e) What does Calvino say about reading a classic in one’s youth?
- f) What is Lopakhin’s plan about the cherry orchard?
- g) How does the old servant, Firs, feel about Ranevskaya?
- h) What does the woman in Rimbaud’s poem bend and show?
- i) Name the cities mentioned in Brecht’s poem.
- j) What happened to those who built the Great Wall of China?
- k) Who hauled the rocks that made up the gates of Thebes?

l) How did Madame Loisel lose the necklace?

m) How does the Loisel couple plan to raise the money?

n) What did the owner of the necklace tell Madame Loisel?

o) What is to happen to the homeless in “Autumn Day”?

6. Answer any **three** of the following questions:

5×3=15

a) Comment on the use of humour in “The Necklace”.

b) What qualities of the classic does Calvino deduce?

c) Briefly comment on the love affairs in “The Cherry Orchard”.

d) How does Rimbaud delineate the ugliness of the woman’s body?

e) How does the audience react to the infant prodigy?

f) Make an estimate of Gayev in “The Cherry Orchard”.
