

2014

ENGLISH

( Major )

Paper : 5.5

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions*

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

10×3=30

(a) Critically comment on Johnson's description of the major literary works of Pope in his *Life of Pope*. Is he successful in highlighting Pope's literary achievements through the analysis of his works?

(b) Evaluate Emily Dickinson's style in her letters. Do you think her use of a particular vocabulary, images and metaphors give the reader an insight into her personality?

- (c) From your reading of the prescribed letters of Ashutosh Mukherjee to Lord Lytton, attempt an analysis of the educational environment in India in the early twentieth century. Show how Mukherjee makes a case for educational autonomy in the letter.
- (d) What aspects of Tagore's personality can one deduce from a reading of the prescribed letters by him? Give a reasoned answer.
- (e) Analyze Kafka's use of the epistolary mode in exploring psychologically the nature of his father Hermann Kafka.
- (f) Show how Anthony Trollope uses the autobiographical mode of writing to describe his development as a novelist. Give relevant examples from the text.
- (g) Comment on the regional environment that R. K. Narayan constructs in his autobiography, *My Days*. Would it be appropriate to state that his autobiography reads more like a fictional work than as an autobiography?

2. Answer any *three* of the following :  $5 \times 3 = 15$

(a) Describe briefly Emily Dickinson's portrayal of Amherst in her letter to Mrs. Bowles (*Winter 1858*).

(b) "The writer of stories must please, or he will be nothing." (Anthony Trollope) Explain with reference to the prescribed text.

(c) "One of the greatest thoughts of his earliest works is the *Essay on Criticism*" (*Life of Pope*) Elaborate Johnson's assessment of *Essay on Criticism*.

(d) Describe, after Franz Kafka, his early years, as stated in his letter to his father.

(e) What are Rabindranath Tagore's views on fasting as described in his letter to the Mahatma dated May 11, 1933?

3. Write briefly on the following :  $2 \times 4 = 8$

(a) R. K. Narayan's memories as a journalist as recounted in *My Days*

(b) Emily Dickinson's letter to Mrs. Samuel Bowles, August, 1861

(c) Anthony Trollope's views on writing a history of English prose fiction

(d) Johnson's views on Pope's *Dunciad*

4. Give very short answer to the following :

1×7=7

(a) How was Robert Kafka related to Franz Kafka?

(b) What is Pisek in Kafka's letter to his father—a person, a place or a thing?

(c) Who is Lord Ainsworth as referred to by Anthony Trollope?

(d) Who is Mary in Emily Dickinson's prescribed letters?

(e) Which of Pope's books did Hamilton translate?

(f) Who was Martha Blount as referred to in *Life of Pope*?

(g) When did Tagore write his letter to Lord Chelmsford?

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