

2016

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 6.6

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

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

OPTION—A

(INDIAN POETRY, FICTION AND DRAMA)

1. Answer the following as directed : $1 \times 7 = 7$

(a) Dear is the — to my soul.

(Fill in the blank)

(b) What does the poet's memory recall in
Breaded Fish ?

(c) He brings me closer to myself as he quotes Lenin's love of Beethoven, but loses me as he turns to Gandhi.

(d) Separation can't be borne when the rains come: this every lyric says.

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

(a) Write a short note on the exploration of familiar spaces and things in the work of Toru Dutt.

(b) Comment on the female experience in India that finds a voice in the poems of Eunice de Souza.

(c) Bring out the typical scenes and situations in R. K. Narayan's *The Guide*.

(d) Discuss the significance of Carignano in *Fire on the Mountain*.

(e) Comment on Namita Gokhale's attempts at recalling Kalidas's epic in Sanskrit.

4. Answer any *three* of the following : $10 \times 3 = 30$

(a) Compare the work of Toru Dutt and Eunice de Souza, keeping in mind their various historical and contextual frameworks. Cite examples from their poetry to support your answer.

- (b) From a reading of the prescribed poems of A. K. Ramanujan, analyze the distinguishing features of his poetry.
- (c) How does Agha Shahid Ali explore the themes of loss and longing in his poetry? Discuss with illustrations from the prescribed poems.
- (d) Comment on the conflict between tradition and modernity in *The Guide*.
- (e) "All the characters in *Fire on the Mountain* are in a relationship with solitude—a relationship that is fraught with love, hate, bitterness, longing, attraction, rejection and resignation." Discuss.
- (f) Bring out the symbolism in Girish Karnad's play, *Tughlaq*.
- (g) "*Kanyadaan* unravels the most troubled aspects of the relationship between caste and gender in postcolonial India." Would you agree with this view? Give reasons for your answer.

OPTION—B

(AMERICAN FICTION, AUTOBIOGRAPHY
AND DRAMA)

SECTION—I

1. Answer the following questions : 1×4=4

(a) Where did Roderick Usher bury his deceased sister?

(b) Who was the captain of the ship 'HMS Bellipotent'?

(c) What is the pseudonym used by Harriet Jacobs in her autobiography?

(d) What is the name of Sarah's little daughter?

2. Answer the following questions : 2+2=4

(a) What are the changes noticed by the narrator when he read the *Mad Trist* to Roderick Usher?

(b) How did the grandmother react when she came to know that Linda was pregnant?

3. Write short notes on any *two* of the following :
5×2=10

- (a) *The Haunted Palace*
(b) The mother's hatred for palefaces in
My Mother
(c) Silas' act of defiance in *Long Black Song*

4. What according to Poe are the hallmarks of a successful short story? Does *The Fall of the House of Usher* meet the author's own requirements? Illustrate your answer from the text. 10

Or

Show how the concluding chapters of *Billy Budd* raise questions about the impossibility of knowing the truth. Focus on the court-martial and the book's multiple endings to illustrate your answer. 10

5. Show how Zitkala-Sa successfully uses simple incidents from the life of a young girl to describe the trauma of the Native American experience of displacement. 10

Or

"Harriet Jacobs' *A Perilous Passage in the Slave Girl's Life* gloss over the terrible experiences that a slave would have undergone because slave narratives were written with a white readership in mind." Do you agree? Give a well-reasoned answer. 10

SECTION—II

6. Answer the following questions : $1 \times 3 = 3$

(a) What was the age of Ephraim Cabot when he married his third wife?

(b) In which city did the Youngers live?

(c) In which year was *A Raisin in the Sun* first performed?

7. Answer the following questions : $2 + 2 = 4$

(a) Why did Ephraim Cabot's sons hate him?

(b) What are the views of Joseph Asagai on African Heritage?

8. Write short note on any one of the following : 5

(a) The land in *Desire Under the Elms*

(b) Beneatha Younger

9. Critically evaluate the plot-construction of Eugene O'Neill's play, *Desire Under the Elms*. 10

Or

Discuss the aptness and suitability of the title, *A Raisin in the Sun*. How does it relate to the dreams of each of the characters? 10

OPTION—C

(WOMEN'S POETRY, JOURNALS AND DIARIES)

1. Answer the following questions : 1×7=7

(a) What does the East 'doth hold' in Anne Bradstreet's poem, *To My Dear and Loving Husband*?

(b) Who is Jonah?

(c) Whose snapshots are recorded in Rich's poem?

(d) What is the full name of HD?

(e) In how many languages does Kamala Das dream according to the poems prescribed for you?

(f) Who is George Sand?

(g) To whom does Frances Burney address her first journal?

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

2×4=8

(a) When was *Memoirs of the Life of Colonel Hutchinson* published? Who is Colonel Hutchinson?

(b) What 'debt' is the poet referring to in the poem, *To Her Father with some Verses*?

(c) Comment on the poet's idea of 'afterlife' in *I Dwell in Possibility*.

(d) Who else were present in the room when Mr. Hutchinson spoke to Lord Newark?

(e) When and where was Emily Dickinson born?

(f) Why, according to Adrienne Rich, a 'thinking woman' sleeps with 'monsters'?

3. Critically comment on any *three* of the following extracts with reference to the context : 5×3=15

(a) "I could scrape the colour
from the petals
like split dye from a rock"

(b) "It's another kind of skin; it has a heart,
a mouth, a liver and bowel movements"

(c) "The Truth must dazzle gradually
Or every man be blind."

(d) "It is as human as I am human, don't
You see? It voices my joys, my longings, my
Hopes, and it is useful to me as cawing
Is to crows or roaring to the lions"

(e) "Banging the coffee-pot into the sink
she hears the angels chiding, and looks out
past the raked gardens to the sloppy sky.
Only a week since They said : Have no
patience."

4. (a) Explore critically Anne Bradstreet's
engagements with human relationships
in the prescribed poems. Substantiate. 10

Or

Bring out the significance of dance in
The Dance of the Eunuchs by critically
analyzing the poet's position as a woman. 10

- (b) Show how Elizabeth Browning used
poetry to explore and challenge Victorian
notions of women and their roles. 10

Or

Elucidate the women writers' concern for
every 'silenced' woman by highlighting
power in domestic space. Answer with
reference to *Housewife* and *Snapshots of
a Daughter-in-Law*. 10

- (c) Reflect upon Lucy Hutchinson's *A Confrontation* as a social and political document of her time. 10

Or

Do you think the primary concern of Frances Burney in *The Journal and Letters* is to explore 'self'? Illustrate. 10

OPTION—D

(HISTORY OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE)

1. Answer the following as directed : $1 \times 7 = 7$

(a) The language of the Germanic tribes, the Angles, the Saxons and the Jutes came to be known as —.

(Fill in the blank)

(b) The Authorized Version of the Bible was published in the year —.

(Fill in the blank)

(c) During which historical period did Latin and Greek words enter the English language in large numbers?

(d) Write down one French loan word in the English language.

(d) "English is more masculine than most languages." (Jespersen)

Consider some of the reasons why Jespersen labels English as a masculine language.

(e) Discuss some of the distinctive features of the English language in America.

(f) How did the introduction of printing affect the English language? Elaborate.

OPTION—E

(AFRICAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH)

1. Answer the following :

1×7=7

(a) In which of the prescribed short stories do you come across 'Moshoeshoe Street', 'Bantu-Batho post office' and 'Charterston Clinic'?

(b) In which year was Peter Abraham's novel, *Mine Boy* published?

(c) In which prescribed African text do you encounter a character called 'Mr. Adeyemi'?

- (d) Who translated, into English, Tayeb Salih's *A Handful of Dates* ?
- (e) In which of the texts prescribed do you encounter 'Hussein the Merchant' and 'Mousa, the owner of the fields next to ours'?
- (f) Of which African nationality is the poet Lenrie Peters?
- (g) In which African society is to be found the lore of the 'Abiku' child?

2. Answer the following questions briefly : $2 \times 4 = 8$

- (a) "Who lynched the lakes? Who?
Who slaughtered the sea? Who?"
Name the poem and give a brief comment on the significance of the quoted lines.
- (b) "In vain your bangles cost
Charmed circles at my feet."
Name the poem and briefly comment on the quoted lines.
- (c) Give a brief description of the nature of Lenrie Peters' *I am Talking to You My Sister*.
- (d) Sketch a brief poetical background of Naana Banywa, Horne.

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

5×3=15

- (a) Explain the significance of the title of Wole Soyinka's poem, *Abiku*.
- (b) Attempt a brief environmental reading of Niyi Osundare's *Our Earth Will Not Die*.
- (c) Make a synoptic analysis of Lenrie Peters' *I am Talking to You My Sister*.
- (d) Briefly explain the central idea of Naana Banyiwa, Hornes' *Nana Bosompo*.

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

10×3=30

- (a) Do you think Chinua Achebe successfully represents, through fiction, the historical effects of colonialism on West Africa, in *No Longer at Ease*? Give a reasoned answer.
- (b) Show how Peter Abrahams represents the issue of urbanization in *Mine Boy*. Does the novel portray the transitional nature of South African society?
- (c) Attempt a critical study of William Saidi's *The Garden of Evil* with reference to its central issues.

- (d) Explain, through an understanding of Chinua Achebe's *The Novelist as Teacher*, the nature of the relationship he perceives between African writers and readers.
- (e) Why does Ngugi wa Thiong'o believe that 'language was the means of the spiritual subjugation'? Show how he elaborates this with reference to his own life in the essay, *The Language of African Literature*.
- (f) From your reading of Buchi Emecheta's *Feminism with a small 'f'*, attempt a critical understanding of the nature of gender relations in Igbo society.

OPTION—F

(FILM ADAPTATION)

SECTION—I

1. Answer the following questions : 1×7=7
- (a) What happened to Big Daddy in Morocco?
- (b) Who is the author of the novel, *Pride and Prejudice*?
- (c) Who directed the film, *Ben-Hur* (1959)?

- (d) When was Alfonso Cuarón's *Great Expectations* released?
- (e) What is the name of Skipper and Bricks' pro-football team?
- (f) Who plays the role of 'Bhaisaab' in *Omkara*?
- (g) Name the director of *Dance Like a Man*.

2. Answer the following questions briefly : $2 \times 4 = 8$

- (a) Why did Messala arrest Judah and his family?
- (b) What was Estella trained to do since childhood?
- (c) Who plays the foil to the talented and well-trained dancer, Shobana in the film, *Dance Like a Man*?
- (d) What does 'Cat' signify in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*?

SECTION—II

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

- 3. Discuss the significance of the subtitle of the film, *Ben-Hur : A Tale of the Christ*.

4. Comment on the character of Maggie in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

5. Bring out the significance of costume in films like *Pride and Prejudice*.

6. Elaborate the projection of domestic space in the film, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

7. Elucidate the use of 'Dance' in *Dance Like a Man* to reveal the complexities of gender.

SECTION—III

8. Write an essay on *Ben-Hur* as a classic exploring its various epic features. 10

Or

Critically analyze Cuaron's adaptation of Dicken's novel, *Great Expectations* in his film in the light of his primary concerns. 10

9. Bring out the traits of a tragic hero as displayed in *Omkaara*. 10

Or

Discuss how *Dance Like a Man* reflects Modern Indian Realism and yet has a universal appeal. 10

10. Analyze the role of 'Skipper' in Bricks' life and in the film as well. 10

Or

How does 'stardom' and its glamour influence the characters of a film? Discuss with reference to Keira Knightley playing the character of Elizabeth in 2005 film, *Pride and Prejudice*. 10
