

2015

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) Trace, through a reading of R. K. Narayan's *My Days*, the formative influences and experiences which nurtured his progression as a novelist.
- (b) Write a brief note on life writing as a genre. In *Life of Pope*, do you think Samuel Johnson achieves a balance between a description of Pope's personal life and the criticism of his literary output? Give a reasoned answer.
- (c) Critically examine the nature of the language used by Emily Dickinson in the prescribed letters. Do you think her language compliments the nature of the subjects in them?

- (d) Show how Anthony Trollope makes a distinction between private and public identities in his *An Autobiography*. Is he successful in achieving a harmonious equilibrium between the two?
- (e) From a reading of the prescribed letters, attempt a critical assessment of the personality and politics of Ashutosh Mukherjee.
- (f) Show, through a reading of the prescribed letters, how Rabindranath Tagore employs the epistolary mode of writing to articulate his views on the political and social environment of his time.
- (g) Critically examine Franz Kafka's style in *Letter to His Father*. Do you think his style is deliberately tailored to project a certain relationship with his father?

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

- (a) Briefly show how Emily Dickinson's use of images and metaphors transforms the nature of her prescribed letters.
- (b) Elaborate briefly Samuel Johnson's views on Pope's *Essay on Man* in his *Life of Pope*.

- (c) Show how Tagore's letter to Lord Chelmsford, (May 1919), displays his nationalistic temperament and patriotic fervour.
- (d) Elaborate Anthony Trollope's views on the function of language in fiction as evidenced in *An Autobiography*.
- (e) Describe, briefly, the regional ambience as depicted in R. K. Narayan's *My Days*.

3. Write short notes on the following : 2×4=8

- (a) Samuel Johnson's views on Pope's *The Rape of the Lock* in his *Life of Pope*
- (b) *Barchester Towers* (Anthony Trollope's *An Autobiography*)
- (c) Ashutosh Mukherjee as an educationist
- (d) Rabindranath Tagore's views on fasting.

4. Give very short answer to the following :

1×7=7

- (a) In which of the prescribed essays you have read any mention of the text, *Narrative of the Frenzy of John Dennis*?
- (b) Who is the author of *Doctor Thorne*?

- (c) From where did Ashutosh Mukherjee write his *Letter to Lord Lytton*?
- (d) What was the location from which Tagore wrote his *Letter to Mahatma Gandhi*?
- (e) Who is Ottla in Kafka's *Letter to His Father*?
- (f) Who is Vinnie as mentioned in Emily Dickinson's prescribed letters?
- (g) Who is Dr. Skinner in R. K. Narayan's *My Days*?

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