

2018

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 5.6

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

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

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

- (a) Why did Uma have to discontinue her studies?
- (b) What disorder does Melawe suffer from?
- (c) What is the significance of the forged letter in *Roman Fever* ?
- (d) How are the two daughters of Alida and Grace different from each other?
- (e) What is the role of Mr. Woodfield in *The Fly* ?

- (f) What is the significance of Alice James' journal entry on May 31st, 1891, entitled *Going Downhill*?
- (g) Why does Ralokae support the Setswana tradition?
2. Give short answers to the following questions (any four) : 2×4=8
- (a) Briefly describe Mira Masi's obsession with the idol from your reading of *Fasting, Feasting*.
- (b) Comment briefly on the title of Katherine Mansfield's short story, *The Fly*.
- (c) What is the setting in which the narration of the story, *Heaven is not Closed* begins?
- (d) Why does Katherine Mansfield leave 'The Boss' unnamed in the story, *The Fly*?
- (e) What expressions does Sujata Bhatt use to recreate the vibrant colours of the peacock in her poem, *The Peacock*?
3. Answer any three of the following : 5×3=15
- (a) What is the symbolic significance of the 'colosseum' and the 'act of knitting' in Edith Wharton's *Roman Fever*?

- (b) Comment on Anita Desai's depiction of 'Mama Papa' as a complete erasure of identity in the context of the Indian marriage system.
- (c) How does the story, *Heaven is not Closed* reflect the repressive elements of the Missionary culture?
- (d) What do you understand by the term 'Sister Authoresses'? Give a reasoned answer highlighting the irony implicit in the writer's description of the term.
- (e) Explain the following with reference to the context :

"These days I am seriously thinking of
disowning you, Papa,
You and your sacredness.
What if I start calling you
Mr. Kapur, Lower
Division Clerk, Accounts Section?"

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

10×3=30

- (a) Critically examine the well-defined family dynamics in India and in America from your reading of *Fasting, Feasting*.
- (b) Comment on the representation of family and the Church in *Catholic Mother*.

- (c) How is the intense conflict between the old time acquaintances Mrs. Slade and Mrs. Ansley developed through their interior Monologues in the story, *Roman Fever*?
- (d) Comment on Katherine Mansfield's handling of the concept of death in *The Fly*.
- (e) Comment on the Mamta Kalia's *Tribute to Papa* as a critique of the Indian tradition of glorifying the father figure.
- (f) Critically examine Eunice de Souza's poems in the light of women's self-assertion against a controlling and oppressive patriarchy while commenting on the confessional mode of her writing.
- (g) Show how writers like Helen Maria Williams and Alice James make use of letters and diaries to throw light on contemporary socio-historical events, power struggles and identity politics.
