

**3 (Sem-5/CBCS) ENG-HC 1**

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**ENGLISH**  
**( Honours )**

Paper : ENG-HC-5016

**( British Literature : The 20th Century )**

*Full Marks : 80*

*Time : 3 hours*

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

1. Answer any *ten* of the following as directed:  
1×10=10
- (a) What is Kurtz doing in the Congo?
- (b) What does Kurtz talk to Marlow about on the boat?
- (c) *The Second Coming* has inspired several works including Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*.

(Write True or False)

- (d) "And what rough beast, its hour come round at last,"  
What does 'rough beast' refer to here?
- (e) Who is the speaker in the poem, *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*?
- (f) Whose line does Eliot parody with "In the room the women come and go"?
- (g) What was the original title of *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*?
- (h) Name the prescribed poem which describes the condition of a prostitute who is struggling to make her living.
- (i) "I can see the Queen of England gazing / on my shape."  
Who is the speaker here?
- (j) What does the Hawk do in its sleep?
- (k) What are the advantages that the Hawk mentions it possesses?
- (l) Who is Bilquis in *My Beautiful Laundrette*?
- (m) What is Philip Larkin's intention in *Church Going*?

- (n) Mrs. Dalloway leaves her house to buy flowers for what occasion?
- (o) Who is riding in the important car that stops traffic and business as Clarissa does her shopping?
- (p) How many children do Lucrezia and Septimus Smith have?
- (q) What did the Magi see in the tavern?
- (r) Who are the Magi?

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

2×5=10

- (a) Why does Peter Walsh object to Hugh Whitbread?
- (b) Why is Marlow telling us this story? What does he want to get out of it?
- (c) In what way are Peter Walsh and Sally Seton similar?
- (d) What is the relationship between Septimus and Clarissa in *Mrs Dalloway*?

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- (e) How does *The Second Coming* use mythology and ancient themes to express the onset of modernity?
- (f) In *Sailing to Byzantium*, how are themes of mortality and immortality developed?
- (g) What personal connection did the name 'J. Alfred Prufrock' have for Eliot?
- (h) How does Auden want Yeats to be remembered?
- (i) Why does Auden say "He disappeared in the dead of winter:" in *In Memory of W. B. Yeats*?
- (j) Why does the journey of the Magi called arduous and hazardous?

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

5×4=20

- (a) What does Marlow respect about Kurtz? Does this respect in some ways seem justified or justifiable?
- (b) What is 'the horror'? What is the significance of these being Kurtz's final words, his conclusion or judgement?

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- (c) While Virginia Woolf was writing *Mrs Dalloway*, she referred to it as *The Hours*. She changed the title but what evidence is there of her concern with time?
- (d) Write in brief the role of time in *Mrs Dalloway*.
- (e) What is the meaning of Clarissa's party? Why does the book end with a party and why is this party the most important event of the book?
- (f) How does *The Second Coming* reflect the historical context of the time in which it was written?
- (g) Explain the line "I have measured out my life with coffee spoons:" in *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*.
- (h) Explain the lines "The words of a dead man/Are modified in the guts of the living" in *In Memory of W. B. Yeats*.

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

10×4=40

- (a) How does Conrad depict Africans as different from Europeans? Does this characterization degrade them? Is Chinua Achebe right—is *Heart of Darkness* racist? Discuss.

- (b) What is an interior monologue? Describe, using a specific character in *Mrs Dalloway*, how the monologue functions as a narrative and expository device.
- (c) What does the novel, *Mrs Dalloway* suggest about transnational encounters and relations? How does gender get bound up in that relationship?
- (d) Describe Yeats' *The Second Coming* in relationship to several works it has inspired. Why has *The Second Coming* persisted in the popular imagination?
- (e) Discuss the poem, *Sailing to Byzantium* as a spiritual journey toward perfection and immortality.
- (f) How does the imagery of passivity and pointlessness contribute to the theme of a spiritual wasteland in *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*?
- (g) Write a critical appreciation of *Standing Female Nude*.
- (h) Write a note on the use of imagery in Ted Hughes' *Hawk Roosting*.

- (i) How does the poet use the theme of identity, alienation, and sexuality in Hanif Kureishi's *My Beautiful Laundrette*?
- (j) Critically comment on the title of the poem, *Church Going* by Larkin.

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**3 (Sem-5/CBCS) ENG-HC 2**

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**ENGLISH**

**( Honours )**

**Paper : ENG-HC-5026**

**( Women's Writing )**

*Full Marks : 80*

*Time : 3 hours*

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

**1. Answer any ten of the following as directed :**

**1×10=10**

**(a)** What is the name of Draupadi's husband?

**(b)** In *Bliss*, what event is Bertha preparing for?

**(c)** What does Adrienne Rich say by looking up at the Orion?

**(d)** "A man in black with a \_\_\_\_ look."

**( Fill in the blank )**

**(e)** After the death of her husband, what profession did Kukila Bai take up?

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- (f) How old is the speaker in the poem, *Lady Lazarus*?
- (g) Who is Shug Avery?
- (h) Whose writings was Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* a response to?
- (i) William Godwin
- (ii) Thomas Paine
- (iii) Edmund Burke
- (iv) John Locke

( Choose the correct option )

- (i) Who is the young woman in the party whom Bertha finds in a romantic embrace with her husband?
- (j) Why is the picture of Christ referred to in the poem, *Bequest*?
- (k) In *Bliss*, whom does Bertha have a crush on?
- (l) In which anthology was Plath's *Daddy* published?
- (m) What, according to de Souza, is there in every Catholic household?

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- (n) Which is the first autobiography written in Bengali by a woman?
- (o) In the poem, *Lady Lazarus*, the speaker compares her dying to
- (i) an explosion
- (ii) genocide
- (iii) a sleep
- (iv) performance art

( Choose the correct option )

- (p) What language does the titular Daddy speak in the poem, *Daddy*?
- (q) Why did Alphonso never reveal that Celie and Nettie were not his biological children?
- (r) What is Squeak's real name in the novel, *The Color Purple*?

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

2×5=10

- (a) What, according to Rousseau, are the roles of women 'at all times'?
- (b) What kind of relation did Plath have with her father?

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( Turn Over )

- (c) Why does the speaker smile endlessly and vacuously in *Bequest*?
- (d) What did Celie write to God initially when she wrote letters to Him?
- (e) How did Rassundari Devi learn to read?
- (f) What does Bertha realize at the end of the story, *Bliss*?
- (g) What is the speaker's issue with the Orion?
- (h) What is Operation Bakuli?
- (i) Why does de Souza advise women to keep cats? What do 'cats' symbolize?
- (j) How does Adrienne Rich use the theme of permanency versus transiency in the poem, *Orion*?

3. Answer any four of the following questions :  
5×4=20

- (a) Why does Wollstonecraft think that education is central to the rights of woman?

- (b) Critically comment on the character of Bertha.
- (c) How does Rassundari Devi present her indomitable urge to enter into the world of words in her autobiography?
- (d) Give a character sketch of Dopdi Mejhen.
- (e) How does Alice Walker portray the disruption of traditional gender roles in *The Color Purple*?
- (f) Critically analyze the feminine sensibilities as reflected in Borgohain's *Celebration*.
- (g) Identify and critically comment on the following lines :  
"Otherness is not always neglect—  
Cats return to their litter trays  
When they need to."
- (h) "Bertha feels that the pear tree is a symbol of her own life." Highlighting on the statement, critically analyze the symbolism of the pear tree in *Bliss*.

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

10×4=40

- (a) Discuss *Draupadi* as a narrative of resistance.
- (b) How does Rassundari Devi portray the lived realities of women of the 19th century Bengal in her autobiography?
- (c) What, according to Wollstonecraft, are some of the major reasons for women's subjugated status? How does she critique Rousseau for his views on women?
- (d) Discuss the ironic implications of the title of the short story, *Bliss*.
- (e) How does Walker make use of the theme of injustice in her novel, *The Color Purple*?
- (f) Discuss Plath's *Daddy* as a confessional poem.
- (g) "Celie's rape in *The Color Purple* is not an instrument of her silencing, but a catalyst in her search for a voice." Discuss.

- (h) Discuss the major issues taken up by Mahasweta Devi in *Draupadi*.
- (i) What is the main conflict in *Bliss*? How does Mansfield present the conflict as a projection of the societal norms that can affect one's happiness?
- (j) "A *Vindication of the Rights of Woman* addresses both other women and 'intellectuals' like Rousseau, who endorse double standards." Discuss.

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