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ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 5.3

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

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

Answer any *three* of the following questions :

10×3=30

(a) Addison aimed to 'enliven morality with wit and to temper wit with morality'. How far has he succeeded in this aim in the essay, *The Aims of the Spectator*?

Or

Estimate the role of Addison and Steele in the history of the Periodical Miscellany of the 18th century.

(b) Write a critical note on the members of the Spectator Club as depicted by Steele.

(c) Comment on Charles Lamb's prose style with specific reference to *The Chimney Sweeper*.

(2)

Or

What are Hazlitt's ideas about going on a journey and what does he value most in the course of a journey?

- (d) Dickens' essays in his *American Notes* express some contempt for the American society. Do you think so? Elucidate.

Or

Comment on Dickens' writing style and account for his criticism of certain practices that he encountered in Washington.

2. Answer any *three* of the following questions :
5×3=15

- (a) "The essence of Addison's humour is its irony." Explain with reference to *The Aims of the Spectator*.
- (b) Give a brief account of Sir Roger's love affair as described by Steele in *The Spectator Club*.
- (c) Write a note on Hazlitt's use of quotations in *On Going a Journey*.
- (d) Comment on Dickens' experience on meeting the black slaves on his arrival at Baltimore.

(Continued

(3)

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

2×4=8

- (a) Comment on the portrayal of women in *The Aims of the Spectator*.
- (b) How does Lamb compare the chimney sweepers of London with clergymen?
- (c) What, according to Hazlitt, is 'the soul of a journey'?
- (d) Whom does Addison refer to as 'blanks of society'? What does he say about them?
- (e) Name 'the headquarters of tobacco-tinctured saliva' according to Dickens. Why is it called so?

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

1×7=7

- (a) When did the *Spectator* begin publication?
- (b) With which great Greek thinker does Addison compare his *Spectator*?
- (c) Where and what is Soho Square?
- (d) Who is the lost character to have appeared in *The Spectator Club*?
- (e) Who is Mr. Read in the essay, *The Chimney Sweeper*?

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- (f) Whom does Hazlitt refer to as 'My Old Friend C' in *On Going a Journey*?
- (g) In which chapter of *American Notes* do you find the piece, *Washington : The Legislature and the President's House*?
- (h) What was the earlier name by which the White House was known?

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2016

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 5.4

The Essay in English : The Twentieth Century)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

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

Answer each of the following questions in
one sentence (any seven) : $1 \times 7 = 7$

- (a) Explain the meaning of 'mens sana in corpore sano' as referred in D. H. Lawrence's *Why the Novel Matters*.
- (b) What, according to D. H. Lawrence, is a great confused novel?
- (c) What is Se La?
- (d) From which book of Elwin is *A Pilgrimage to Tawang* taken?

- (e) When was the Spanish Civil War fought?
- (f) What does it mean by British Jingoism?
- (g) Who was the author of the essay, *A Cloud of Pinafores*?
- (h) When was Lawrence's essay, *Why the Novel Matters* published?

2. Answer the following in brief : 2×4=

- (a) Name some of the essayists referred to in Virginia Woolf's essay, *The Art of Essay*.
- (b) What is Anglophobia?
- (c) What were the two occasions on which Tawang came into the world news?
- (d) How can the novel guide man to live life fully?

3. Answer any one of the following in short :

- (a) Discuss about Positive Nationalism.
- (b) In what ways, according to D. H. Lawrence, the novel is the book of life?

4. Explain the following with reference to the context : 5×2=10

- (a) "The emotional urges which are inescapable, and are perhaps even necessary to political action, should be able to exist side by side with an acceptance of reality."

Or

"The point is that as soon as fear, hatred, jealousy and power worship are involved, the sense of reality becomes unhinged."

- (b) "There is no absolute good, there is nothing absolutely right. All things flow and change, and even change is not absolute."

Or

"Right and wrong is an instinct : but an instinct of the whole consciousness in a man, bodily, mental, spiritual at once."

5. Answer the following (any three) : 10×3=30

- (a) How would you assess Woolf's view that 'pleasure' is the driving principle of the essay as a literary form? Present a well-structured answer.

- (b) How does D. H. Lawrence in his essay, *Why the Novel Matters*, highlight the superiority of the novel over other forms of literature?
- (c) Why does Elwin call his journey to Tawang a pilgrimage? Give reasons for your argument.
- (d) "Nationalism is not to be confused with patriotism." How does Orwell distinguish between nationalism and patriotism? Elaborate.

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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) From your reading of Samuel Johnson's *Life of Pope*, make a critical assessment of his style of writing. Do you think that his *Life of Pope* qualifies to be termed an excellent specimen of critical biography?

(b) Emily Dickinson's letters contain a wealth of images and metaphors. How do you think these allusions compliment her language in giving it the effect of immediacy and familiarity?

- (c) Comment on the regional flavour of R. K. Narayan's *My Days*. Do you think that Narayan, in his autobiography, treads the thin line between realistic representation and fictionalization of experience?
- (d) What do you learn about nineteenth century fiction from a reading of Anthony Trollope's *An Autobiography*? Comment on his views on the nature of the fictional genre of his age.
- (e) Show, from a reading of Ashutosh Mukherjee's prescribed letter, how he articulates the importance of autonomy to a university. What does the letter reveal about the nature of the environment for education in the early twentieth century?
- (f) From a reading of prescribed letters, make an assessment of the personality of Rabindranath Tagore. What do the letters reveal about the nature of his patriotism?
- (g) How does Franz Kafka represent his father Hermann Kafka in his *Letter to his Father*? Has he balanced in his assessment of his father?

2. Answer any *three* questions of the following :
5×3=15
- (a) Write briefly on Johnson's views on Pope's translation of *Iliad*.
- (b) Should we consider Emily Dickinson's letters as simply an articulation of her private thoughts?
- (c) Comment on Trollope's views on the three clerks.
- (d) What were the formative influences, as detailed in *My Days*, on R. K. Narayan that nurtured his growth as a novelist?
- (e) Attempt a character sketch of Ashutosh Mukherjee on the evidence of the prescribed letter.
3. Write short notes on any *four* of the following :
2×4=8
- (a) Franz Kafka's use of the epistolary mode of writing
- (b) Emily Dickinson's use of metaphors and images in her letters
- (c) Samuel Johnson's views on Pope's *Essay on Criticism*
- (d) Anthony Trollope's use of examples in his autobiographical account
- (e) Tagore on the treatment of people of Punjab

4. Give very short answer to the following (any seven) : 1×7=

- (a) "Declare, O Goddess, what offended Power." Name the essay from which this has been extracted.
- (b) In which of the prescribed essays do you come across a mention of Charles Merivale's *History of the Romans under the Empire*?
- (c) To whom was Ashutosh Mukherjee's letter addressed?
- (d) "The logical consequence of your example, if followed, will be an elimination of all noble souls from the world." Name the prescribed text.
- (e) What does the term 'pavlatche' mean in Franz Kafka's prescribed text?
- (f) When was R. K. Narayan's *My Days* published?
- (g) In which of the prescribed texts do you come across a reference to 'Rasselas'?
- (h) In Dickinson's letters, Mary and Mamie are the same person.

(State Yes/No)

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2016

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 is Uma removed from the convent school?
- (b) What is the common link between Jenny Slade and Barbara Ashley in *Roman Fever*?
- (c) Who is the narrator of the story, *Heaven is not Closed*?
- (d) What is the connection between World War I and Mansfield's story, *The Fly*?
- (e) Who is referred to as the 'Pillar of the Church' in *Catholic Mother*?

(2)

- (f) Which historical event does Helen Maria Williams refer to in *Letters Written from France*?
- (g) According to what custom is Galethebege married?

2. Give short answer to the following questions :
2×4=

(a) "In my days, girls in the family were not given sweets, nuts, good things to eat." Explain the significance of this remark made by Mama in *Fasting Feasting*.

(b) "I had Barbara."
(i) Who is Barbara?
(ii) Who is 'I'?

(c) Does the Boss really grieve for his son in *The Fly*?

(d) Comment on the role of the Missionaries from your reading of *Heaven is not Closed*.

3. Answer any three of the following :

(a) Explain the significance of the characters of 'Mama-Papa' or 'Mrs. Patton' in *Fasting Feasting*.

5×3=15

(3)

(b) Comment on Mrs. Ansley's preoccupation with the activity of knitting in the story, *Roman Fever*.

Or

Briefly describe the Setswana customs of marriage as depicted in Bessie Head's *Heaven is not Closed*.

(c) Critically comment on the use of the term 'Sister Authoresses' by Mrs. Paradise in the course of her party.

(d) Explain the following with reference to the context :

"You want me to be like you Papa
Or like Rani Lakshmi Bai,
You are not sure what greatness is
But you want me to be great."

4. Answer any three of the following questions :

10×3=30

(a) Elaborate on how Desai uses 'Food' as a major symbol of patriarchal dominion with reference to the title and illustrations from the text, *Fasting Feasting*.

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- (b) Comment on the setting of the story, *Roman Fever* with particular reference to the elements of romance, intrigue and power play as etched out against the backdrop of the Colosseum.
- (c) Explain the significance of the title, *The Fly*, connecting it to the existential dilemma that is embodied in the author's use of the fly as a symbol of man's helplessness against reality.
- (d) Comment on the use of letters, diaries and memoirs by writers like Fanny Burney and Helen Maria Williams to highlight the politics of female identity and contemporary sociohistorical events.
- (e) Examine the poetry of Eunice de Souza and Mamta Kalia in the light of their use of subjective sensibilities to critique patriarchy in Indian society.

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