

2018

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 6.2

(Twentieth Century Criticism and Theory)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

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

1. Give very brief answers/Fill in the blanks/
Choose the correct option (any seven): $1 \times 7 = 7$

(a) Which Shakespearean play is cited by
T. S. Eliot as an 'artistic failure' for not
having 'objective correlative'?

(b) How many ambiguities does William
Empson discuss in his book on
ambiguity?

- (c) Name the phrase coined by Wimsatt and Beardsley to suggest the fallacy of reading a literary work assuming the purpose of the writer.
- (d) According to Bakhtin, Tolstoy's novels are monologic, but Dostoyevsky's novels are ____.
- (e) Which of the following schools of criticism argues for the parallel reading of the text and the context?
- (i) New Criticism
 - (ii) New Historicism
 - (iii) French Feminism
 - (iv) Deconstruction
- (f) Name the essay in which Helen Cixous introduced the phrase 'écriture féminine'.
- (g) Who said, "The Orient was almost a European invention"?

(h) According to Saussure, the sign is a symmetrical unity between one ____ and one ____.

(i) What is the term coined by Derrida to unite the senses of 'to differ' and 'to defer'?

(j) Name the field of study where Claude Levi-Strauss applied Saussurean theory of linguistics.

2. Answer any *four* of the following : 2×4=8

(a) How, according to Eliot, significant emotion differs from personal emotion?

(b) In what sense does I. A. Richards define poetry as 'pseudostatements'?

(c) How, according to Mukarovsky, maximum foregrounding is achieved?

(d) Why does Jonathan Culler define theory as a 'miscellaneous genre'?

(e) Name two books written by Michel Foucault.

(f) What does F. R. Leavis mean by 'enactment'?

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

(a) Why does Eliot say that "emotions recollected in tranquility is an inexact formula"?

(b) How do the New Historicist Critics assess the role of the author in the production of the text?

(c) Why does Terry Eagleton, in his comments on Shakespeare, say that literary canon is only a 'construct'?

(d) How does Juliet Mitchell explain the issue of constructing gender identity in the Oedipal phase?

(e) Define and explain the meaning of the phrase 'binary' in structuralist thinking.

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

10×3=30

(a) Examine T. S. Eliot's views on poetry with special reference to his theories of 'unification of sensibility' and 'objective-correlative'.

Or

How do the concepts of intentional and affective fallacies, paradox and tension promote the New Critics' belief in the 'autonomy' of the text?

(b) In what sense does Foucault say that knowledge is power? Can we explain the orientalist argument in the light of this Foucaultian analysis? Discuss.

Or

Discuss the major concepts formulated by Mikhail Bakhtin to emphasise the liberating power and subversive use of novelistic discourse.

- (c) Comment on I. A. Richards' critique of 'stock response' and defence of 'close reading' of the literary text.

Or

How does Jonathan Culler explain the impact of theory in terms of 'challenging and reorienting thinking'? Discuss in the light of Foucault and Derrida as two case studies explained by Culler in this context.

- (d) Why does Helen Cixous exhort the female writers to construct a separate language in these words : "Write yourself. Your body must be heard"?

(7)

Or

How do the New Historicists
substantiate the view that history is not
merely a context, but a co-text?

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2018

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 6.3

(Nature)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

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

SECTION—I

1. Answer the following : 1×3=3

(a) To which classical poet does 'Pastoral' owe its origin?

(b) Who is the author of the tract, *On the Sublime*?

(c) Name the essay that C. P. Snow wrote in 1959.

2. What does 'Landscaping' technically relate to? 2

Or

Write the names of two plays written in the pastoral mode. 2

3. Write a brief note on the link between nature and romanticism. 5

Or

Briefly discuss the equation between land and female body. 5

4. Compare Burke's idea of the sublime with that of Longinus. 10

Or

"Nature for the romantic writer was much more than the surroundings on the physical world; it was an impulse that functioned as agency for the understanding of the condition of being itself." Explain. 10

SECTION—II

5. (a) Who was the Earl of Burlington? 1
 (b) What is the name of Wordsworth's great autobiographical poem? 1
 (c) Whose death is mourned by Tennyson in his poem, *In Memoriam*? 1
 (d) Who is the author of *Walden*? 1
6. (a) What is bioethics? 2
 (b) Write the names of two poetry collections by William Blake. 2
 (c) What is genetics? 2

7. (a) Write a short introduction to life and works of M. S. Swaminathan. 5

Or

Why does Blake describe the season of Autumn as 'new born'? 5

- (b) Mention the activities of the bird as observed by the poet, Emily Dickinson. 5

Or

Write a short note on the character of Manolin. 5

8. (a) Write a critical appreciation of Lawrence's poem *Snake* or Dylan Thomas's poem *Fern Hill*. 10

Or

Attempt a critical evaluation of Santiago's character in *The Old Man and the Sea*. 10

- (b) "Walden epitomizes the importance of solitude, contemplation and closeness to nature." Elucidate. 10

Or

Write an essay on M. S. Swaminathan's ideas about GM food. 10

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2018

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 6.4

(Western Mythology)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

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

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

- (a) Who is Hera in Greek mythology?
- (b) Where was Poseidon's palace situated?
- (c) Name the lame God of fire in Greek mythology.
- (d) The Titans, children of Uranus and Ge are twelve in number.

(Write True or False)

(2)

(e) Leto/Hera/Semele is the mother of Dionysus.

(Choose the correct option)

(f) Cronus is called _____ by the Romans.

(Fill in the blank)

(g) What is the Holy Grail?

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

(a) Name two God-like heroes from ancient Greek mythology who are the descendants of Lynceus and Hypermnestra.

(b) Name the two brothers of Atlas.

(c) What were the gifts showered upon Pandora by the Gods?

(d) What did Cain and Abel offer God?

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

$5 \times 3 = 15$

(a) Write briefly on why the birth of Athena was a favourite subject with Greek artists.

(b) How did Pluto, Minerva and Mercury help Perseus in his expedition to bring the head of Medusa?

(3)

- (c) Narrate briefly the tragic life of Oedipus.
- (d) What lessons do modern readers derive from the tale of *David and Goliath*?
- (e) Sketch the character of Captain Vere.

Examine the role of 'curse' in Western mythology citing examples from any two classical myths prescribed in your syllabus. 10

Or

Give an account of the events that lead to the central character, Billy, fall prey to a scheming world, from your reading of Melville's great classic, *Billy Budd*. 10

Make an assessment of Noah's character showing his sense of perseverance and unflinching faith in God in spite of all the difficulties that he faces in life. 10

Or

Give, after Robert Graves, an account of the myth of Sisyphus. 10

6. Present your views on how Tennyson depicts the Victorian era's quest for knowledge and exploration in his poem, *Ulysses* which is based on the Greek version of Homer's *Odyssey*. 10

Or

Comment upon Shelley's presentation of a sense of continuity from the classical times to his own in his elegy, *Adonais*. 10

2018

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 questions : $1 \times 7 = 7$

- (a) What does the poet's memory recall in *Breaded Fish*?
- (b) What is the creeper compared to in *Our Casuarina Tree*?
- (c) In *Snowmen*, where did Agha Shahid Ali's ancestors come from?
- (d) In which year was the novel, *Fire on the Mountain* published?

- (e) In which language was *Tughlaq* originally written?
- (f) Who was Velan in *The Guide*?
- (g) What reason does Jyoti state for choosing Arun as her life partner in *Kanyadaan*?
2. Identify the poem and briefly explain the following : 2×4=8
- (a) And every time the music rose, ____ before
Mine inner vision rose a form sublime,
Thy form, O Tree, as in my happy prime
I saw thee, in my own loved native clime.
- (b) Sometimes see
in shop-windows,
despite the well-known laws
of optics
the portrait of a stranger,
date unknown
often signed in a corner
by my father.
- (c) That stare of perpetual surprise
in those great green eyes
will teach you
to die alone.
- (d) No one now comes from Kandahar,
deal Ali, to pitch tents by the Jhelum,
under autumn maples,
and claim descent from the holy prophet.

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

(a) Discuss the metaphors used by Taru Dutt in *Our Casuarina Tree*.

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

(c) Discuss the theme of alienation in Tughlaq.

(d) Comment on the significance of the title *The Guide*.

(e) How does Vijay Tendulkar deal with the theme of idealism versus reality in the play, *Kanyadaan*?

(f) Comment on Namita Gokhale's treatment of the theme of desire in *Shakuntala*.

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

$10 \times 3 = 30$

(a) Discuss the distinguishing features of A. K. Ramanujan's poetry from a reading of the prescribed poems.

- (b) "Memory forms an important part of Agha Shahid Ali's poems. Just as exile provides each memory with its own space, absence gives high definition to what is absent, be it landscape, lover or self."

Comment on the poems of Agha Shahid Ali in the light of the above statement.

- (c) Bring out the symbolism in Girish Karnad's play, *Tughlaq*.

- (d) How does Namita Gokhale treat the issues of history, myth and memory in *Shakuntala*?

- (e) Comment on the conflict between tradition and modernity in *The Guide*.

- (f) Discuss Anita Desai's *Fire on the Mountain* as a novel that deals with loneliness and isolation as a coping mechanism.

- (g) "*Kanyadaan* explores the most troubled issues of the relationship between caste and gender in post-colonial India." Discuss.

OPTION—B

(AMERICAN FICTION, AUTOBIOGRAPHY
AND DRAMA)

SECTION—I

1. Answer the following questions : $1 \times 4 = 4$

(a) What is the name of the romance that the narrator reads to Roderick Usher?

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

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

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

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

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

(b) Why was the mother proud of her daughter (narrator) in *My Mother*?

3. Write short notes on any *two* of the following :

5×2=10

- (a) *The Haunted Palace*
- (b) The White salesman in *Long Black Song*
- (c) The role of the grandmother in *A Perilous Passage in the Slave Girl's Life*

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

"The chief concern of *Billy Budd* is with innocence as much as with evil." Would you agree with this view? Give reasons for your answer.

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

Using *A Perilous Passage in the Slave Girl's Life*, show how slave narratives explored the aspects of American life that were rarely openly acknowledged.

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) Name the only white character in the play, *A Raisin in the Sun*.

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

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

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

(b) Why did Simeon and Peter long to go to California?

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

5

(a) Title of the play, *Desire under the Elms*

(b) Representation of American dream in *A Raisin in the Sun*

9. Critically evaluate Eugene O'Neill's play, *Desire under the Elms* as a tragedy. 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?

OPTION—C

(WOMEN'S POETRY, JOURNALS AND DIARIES)

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

(a) Which two people are actually one in Bradstreet's poem, *To My Dear and Loving Husband*?

(b) What was the actual name of George Sand?

(c) Where is Stevie Smith's 'pitiful ghost happier' in *The Wanderer*?

(d) When was the poem, *Housewife* by Anne Sexton published?

- (e) To whom does the narrator bring an offering in *Orchard* by H. D.?
- (f) What is the colour of the tattoos on the cheeks of the eunuchs in Kamala Das' poem, *The Dance of the Eunuchs*?
- (g) To whom does Frances Burney address her first journal?

2. Answer the following questions :

2×4=8

- (a) What does the Wanderer continuously do in Stevie Smith's poem?
- (b) Why according to Dickinson is 'poetry' superior to 'prose'?
- (c) "Two handsome women, gripped
in argument,"
Who are the two women and why are they arguing in Rich's poem, *Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law*?
- (d) How does the speaker depict the bounty of the orchard in H. D.'s *Orchard*?

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

(a) As Lightning to the Children eased
With explanation kind
The Truth must dazzle gradually
Or every man be blind—

(b) O wind, rend open the heat,
cut apart the heat,
rend it to tatters.

(c) Why not let me speak in
Any language I like? The language I speak
Becomes mine, its distortions, its quernesses
All mine, mine alone.

(d) Men enter by force, drawn back like Jonah
into their fleshy mothers.

(e) Banging the coffee-pot into the sink
she hears the angels chiding and looks out
past the raked gardens to the sloppy sky.

4. (a) How does Anne Bradstreet acknowledge her place as a woman and daughter in *To Her Father with Some Verses*? Do you consider her poem to be puritanical in its outlook? Comment.

10

Or

- (b) "Elizabeth Barrett Browning uses poetry to explore and challenge traditional Victorian roles for women." Analyze this comment with reference to her poem, *To George Sand : A Recognition*.

5. (a) Critically examine the imagery employed by Kamala Das in her *The Dance of the Eunuchs*.

10

Or

- (b) Explore the poets' concerns with women's position in a domestic space with reference to *Housewife* and *Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law*.

6. (a) How does Lucy Hutchinson portray her support for Puritan ideologies upheld by her husband Colonel Hutchinson? Elaborate your answer with adequate examples from the prescribed text.

10

Or

- (b) What does *The Journals and Letters* reveal about the character and personality of Frances Burney? Comment with reference to the prescribed entry.

OPTION—D

(HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE)

1. Answer the following as directed : 1×7=7

(a) The four main dialects of old English which scholars have been able to determine are Kentish, West Saxon, Mercian and _____.

(Fill in the blank)

(b) Who was the author of *Table Alphabeticall*, the first monolingual dictionary of English published in 1604?

(c) During the Middle English Period many words were borrowed from which two languages?

(i) Celtic and Old Norse

(ii) Latin and French

(Choose the correct one)

(d) In which year the final completed volume of Oxford English Dictionary was published?

- (e) Who published the book, *Dissertation on the English Language* (1789) which advocated an American standard of usage?

(i) Noah Webster

(ii) John Webster

(Choose the correct one)

- (f) During the Middle English Period there were effectively three languages in use in England—French, English and Latin. French was the language of the Royal Court, English the language of the ordinary person in the street and Latin the language of administration and religion.

(State True or False)

- (g) When was the *King James Bible* first published?

2. Write on/Answer any *four* of the following briefly :

$2 \times 4 = 8$

- (a) Two French loan words in English
- (b) What is a hybrid word? Give an example.
- (c) Two words to distinguish American from British spelling

- (d) Generalization of meaning with suitable examples
- (e) Celtic influence on English language
- (f) Two compound words in English

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

- (a) Write a note on the influence of the Benedictine reform on English.
- (b) Explain the terms 'Johnsonese' and 'Journalese'.
- (c) What are euphemisms? Explain with examples.
- (d) Write a note on the problem of orthography in the English language.
- (e) What are malapropisms? Give examples.

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

10×3=30

- (a) Give an account of the French influence on the English language.
- (b) Write a note on the Scandinavian element in Old English.
- (c) Discuss Shakespeare's influence on the English language.

- (d) Illustrate some of the important ways of forming new words in English that you are familiar with.
- (e) Write a note on the uniformity of American English.

OPTION—E

(AFRICAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH)

1. Answer the following :

1×7=7

- (a) Name the work in which Ngugi's *The Language of African Literature* was published.
- (b) Who wrote *Feminism with a Small 'f'!*?
- (c) Wole Soyinka's poem, *Abiku* is based on the mythology of which tribe in Nigeria?
- (d) Name the poet who wrote *Nana Bosompo*.
- (e) Which African country is Lenrie Peters from?
- (f) Mention the poem from which the following lines are taken :

The wind, unwound, will play its tune
trees twittering, grasses dancing;

(g) Who said the following :

"I would be quite satisfied if my novels (especially the ones I set in the past) did no more than teach my readers that their past—with all its imperfections—was not one long night of savagery ..."?

2. Answer the following :

2×4=8

(a) Write briefly on Soyinka's use of the *Abiku* myth in his poem of the same name.

(b) Comment on the title of the poem, *Our Earth Will Not Die*.

(c) Bring out the significance of the title of the poem, *Nana Bosompo*.

(d) What does the title of the essay, *Feminism with a Small 'f'* signify?

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

5×3=15

(a) In his essay, *The Language of African Literature* why, according to Ngugi wa Thiongo, is the choice of language and its 'use' important?

- (b) Do you think that Niyi Osundare ushers in a green discourse in her poem, *Our Earth Will Not Die*? Give a reasoned answer.
- (c) Comment on the author's position on feminism in *Feminism with a Small 'f'*.
- (d) Critically discuss Soyinka's use of metaphor and imagery in the poem, *Abiku*.
- (e) What is the role of writers that Achebe charts in his essay, *The Novelist as Teacher*?

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

10×3=30

- (a) How does Achebe's essay, *The Novelist as Teacher* bring out an interesting dynamic between author, text and reader? Discuss.
- (b) Attempt a critical appreciation of Lenrie Peters' *I am Talking to you My Sister*.
- (c) Critically discuss Ngugi wa Thiongo's views on the *Language of the Coloniser* and the processes used by the coloniser to completely colonise the minds of the colonised.

(d) What are the major issues that the author discusses in her essay, *Feminism with a Small 'f'*?

(e) Do you notice any kind of experimentation in language, style and theme in the poems prescribed for you? Give a well thought out response.

OPTION—F

(FILM)

SECTION—I

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

- (a) Where is Bharadwaj's *Omkara* set?
- (b) Who wrote the screenplay of *Ben-Hur* (1959)?
- (c) Who plays the role of Maggie Pollitt in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*?
- (d) In gratitude, what did Arrius offer Judah for saving his life?
- (e) Name the first film to have won eleven Oscars.
- (f) What is the screen name of Dicken's Pip?
- (g) Name the two single young men in *Pride and Prejudice*.

2. Answer the following in brief : 2×4=8

- (a) Why did the family members gather in Big Momma's East Mississippi plantation?
- (b) What is the role of the prologue to the film *Ben-Hur* (1959)?
- (c) Mention the title of the two diegetic songs in *Omkara*.
- (d) What does Estella represent for the young protagonist of the film *Great Expectations* (Cuaron)?

SECTION—II

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

- 3. Consider the title of the film *Dance Like A Man* and comment on the title.
- 4. Analyze the symbolic significance of *Paradiso Perduto* in *Great Expectations*.
- 5. Describe the chariot race sequence in *Ben-Hur*.
- 6. State some of the variations introduced by Peter Brooks in his 1958 film adaptation of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.
- 7. Discuss how physical deformity foregrounds the character of Langda in *Omkara*.

SECTION—III

8. Examine critically the representation of class, propriety, costumes and social interactions in *Pride and Prejudice* (2005). 10

Or

Show how 'dance' is used as a motif in the film *Dance Like A Man* and mention its various implications.

9. Assess the theme of 'ambition' as explored by Cuaron in his film in terms of the personal and the national. 10

Or

Show, in what ways, the film *Ben-Hur* features three different cultures.

10. How does Bharadwaj's casting in his film *Omkara* help him to highlight social hierarchy and difference in characters like Omi and Dolly? 10

Or

Enumerate the use of symbols on screen and show how it compliments the themes of the film, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

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