

2016

ENGLISH - PAPER-II

Time Allowed : 3 Hours

Full Marks : 200

If the questions attempted are in excess of the prescribed number, only the questions attempted first up to the prescribed number shall be valued and the remaining ones ignored.

1. Write a Critical Analysis of the following excerpt :-

On her 36th birthday, Thomas had shown her first swimming pool. It had been his favourite color, exactly - just so much of it, the swimmers' white arms jutting into the chevrons of high society. She had rolled up her window and told him to drive on, fast.

Now this act of mercy : four daughters dragging her to their husbands' company picnic, white families on one side and them on the other, unpacking the same squeeze bottles of Heinz, the same waxy beef patties and salem potato chip bags. So he was dead for the first time on Fourth of July - ten years ago had been harder, waiting for something to happen, and ten years before that, the girls like young horses eyeing the track. Last August she stood alone for hours in front of the T.V. set as a crow's wing moved slowly through the white streets of government. That brave swimming.

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2. Answer any one question from this group :-

- "Leda and the swan" is a poem of many layers - elaborate.
- How does Eliot interweave his reflections on time, memory and transience in "Burnt Norton" ?
- In "An Introduction", how does Kamala Das negotiate the question of identity through binary constructions ?
- Comment on the employment of images and metaphors in Plath's poems-- "Mirron" and "Nick and the Candlestick".

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3. Answer any one question from this group :-

- How do the images and symbols in Look Back in Anger contribute to the feel of a 'kitchen-sink drama' ?
- Analyze Beckett's portrayal of time and space in Waiting for Godot.
- How does the narrative technique of A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man succeed in conveying its theme ?
- What reflections of industrialization can be noted in The Rainbow and what are its repercussions ?

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4. Answer any one of the following questions :-

- Ghosh explores the diverse issues surrounding nationhood in The Shadow Lines - explain.
- Discuss Wolf's ideas on gender with reference to A Room of One's Own.
- How is the theme of 'destiny' handled by Achebe through his characterization in Things Fall Apart ?
- Is Raja Rao's Kanthapura a postcolonial novel ?

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