

2018
ENGLISH - PAPER-I

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.

Group - A

1. Write an essay on any one of the following topics : 40
- The social value of literature.
 - Literature and film.
 - Magic realism in literature.
 - The cultural value of biography and autobiography.
 - The role of literary theory in reading literary texts.

Group - B

2. Answer any two of the following questions : 40x2
- How would you assess Macbeth - as a villain or as a doomed hero? Give reasons for your answer.
 - Critically consider Donne's use of metaphysical conceits in the poems on your syllabus.
 - What is the function and importance of epic similes in Paradise Lost Book I? Answer with close reference to two epic similes in Book I.
 - Discuss Pope's use of supernatural elements in The Rape of the Lock.
 - Consider Keats's 'Ode to Nightingale' and 'Ode on a Grecian Urn' as meditations on life and death.
 - Show how Jennyson reflects on the many uncertainties of the Victorian Age in 'Ulysses' and 'Tithonus'.

Group - C

3. Answer any two of the following questions : 40x2
- How apt is the title 'Pride and Prejudice' for Jane Austen's novel? Give reasons for your answer.
 - Critically consider the importance of the rustic characters in The Mayor of Casterbridge of Hardy.
 - Analyse the structure of Wuthering Heights and show how it helps to focus the main concerns of the novel.
 - Examine Mark Twain's handling of the issues of race, humanity and identity in The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.
 - How would you read Mary Shelley's Frankenstein - as science fiction or as a novel of social commentary or as both? Justify your answer.