

2021**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.

Section-A

1. Write an essay on *any one* of the following topics: 40×1=40
- (a) Literature can give us access to a more holistic understanding of our past than the official texts of history
 - (b) Social media can be more damaging than beneficial to a society
 - (c) Literature can play a role in changing societies

Section-B

2. Answer *any two* of the following questions: 40×2=80
- (a) Give two ways in which a tragedy is different from that of a comedy. Discuss with reference to Shakespeare's plays *Macbeth* and *As You Like It*.
 - (b) What is 'Metaphysical' about John Donne's poetry? Explain with reference to the poems you have read.
 - (c) Give one feature of Wordsworth's poetry that may be said to be an influence of the French Revolution. Illustrate with reference to the poems you have read.
 - (d) What qualities of the West Wind does Shelley want to make his own? How do the images of nature indicate Shelley's political views?
 - (e) What are the differences between Ulysses and Telemachus? Would you agree with the argument that both of them have the qualities of a hero? Give a reasoned answer.
 - (f) 'So, one day more am I deified./ Who knows but the world may end tonight?'
Explain the lines. How do these lines reflect the spirit of the Victorian Age?

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

40×2=80

- (a) Discuss briefly the economic condition of any *four* characters as portrayed in Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*.
- (b) How does Thomas Hardy portray the conflict of the old and the new in *The Mayor of Casterbridge*? Write a brief note relating the novel to the social context of the age.
- (c) Discuss the portrayal of Orlick, the labourer who works at Joe's forge with Pip, as Pip's dark shadow.
- (d) Why have several critics accused Mark Twain of confirming rather than challenging the racial stereotypes in his portrayal of Jim in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*?
- (e) Would you agree with the view that in her novel *Frankenstein* Mary Shelley questions the pursuit of knowledge within the context of the industrial age? Give reasons for your answer.

For Classroom / Online guidance / coaching of WBCS Prelims , Main Exam by experts and officers and Interview by IAS / WBCS Gr A Officers/ Toppers, WBCS Prelims and Main Mock Test (Classroom & Online), Optional Subjects, Studymaterials, Correspondence Course etc. Call WBCSMadeEasy™ at Toll Free no 1800 572 9282 or 8274048710 Or 9674493673 or mail us at mailus@wbcsmadeeasy.in (Our centers as of now - College Street 8585843673, Garia/ HO 8274048710, Siliguri - 9051265991. Medinipur 8274972589)