

West Bengal State University
B.A./B.Sc./B.Com. (Honours, Major, General) Examinations, 2013
PART-II

ENGLISH — General
Paper-III

Duration : 3 Hours

Full Marks : 100

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

GROUP - A

1. Answer any six of the following questions :

6 × 2 = 12

a) "Beware the ides of March."

— Who is the speaker ? What is the significance of the ides of March in the play ?

b) "Let me have men about me that are fat."

Who is the speaker ? Whom does he have in mind while making this remark ?

c) "How many times shall Caesar bleed in sport."

Who is the speaker ? Explain the expression : "Bleed in sport".

d) "... he doth bestride the narrow world like a colossus."

Who is the speaker ? Who is being compared to colossus and why ?

e) "But though I am daughter to his blood,

I am not to his manners."

Who is the speaker ? What does she mean by this statement ?

- f) Why did Antonio borrow money from Shylock ?
- g) "You teach me how a beggar should be answered." Who is the speaker ? What is the context of the speech ?
- h) "If I live to be as old as Sibylla, I will die as chaste as Diana ..." Who is the speaker ? Why does the speaker refer to Sibylla and Diana ?
- i) "Which of the six is the real man ? Who is the speaker ? What are the six personalities referred to here ?
- j) Why does Nicola want Louka to marry Sergius ?
- k) "Some soldiers, I know, are afraid to die."
Who is the speaker ? How does the person listener respond to this statement ?
- l) "Gentle folk are all alike." Who is the speaker ? What does the speaker mean by this statement ?

GROUP - B

2. Answer the following questions :

2 × 16 = 32

- a) i) Write a short note on the significance of the Trial Scene in Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*.

OR

- ii) Would you agree with the view that Portia is the main character in Shakespeare's play, *Merchant of Venice* ? Justify your answer.

OR

- iii) Write a brief note on the character of Julius Caesar as portrayed by Shakespeare in his play, *Julius Caesar*.

OR

- iv) Describe briefly Act I of Shakespeare's play, *Julius Caesar* and indicate how this Act serves as an exposition of the play.

- b) i) Bernard Shaw's play, *Arms and the Man* is subtitled; "An Anti-romantic comedy in Three Acts". Comment on the significance of this subtitle.

OR

- ii) Write a brief note comparing the characters of Raina and Louka in Shaw's play, *Arms and the Man*.

3. Explain with reference to the context any *two* of the following : 2 × 8 = 16

- a) "If to do were as easy as to know what were good to do, Chapels had been Churches and poor mens' cottages princes' palaces."

- b) "If Hercules and Lichas play at dice

Which is the better man, the greater throw

May turn by fortune from the weaker hand."

- c) "O, he sits high in all the people's hearts

And that which would appear offense in us

His countenance, like richest alchemy

Will change to virtue and to worthiness,"

- d) "He shall but bear them as the ass bears gold

To groan and sweat under the business."

- e) "I can't make you see it

from the professional point of view."

- f) "What a man ! Is he a man !"

GROUP - C

4. Write an essay on any *one* of the following topics : 1 × 20 = 20
- a) Literature and society
 - b) Literature in the age of technology
 - c) Your favourite book
 - d) Relevance of teaching English in India.
5. Write notes on any *five* of the following : 5 × 4 = 20
- a) Imagery
 - b) Ode
 - c) Soliloquy
 - d) Lyric
 - e) Ballad
 - f) Dramatic Monologue
 - g) Elegy
 - h) Sonnet.