

**West Bengal State University**  
**B.A./B.Sc./B. Com. ( Honours, Major, General ) Examinations, 2014**

**PART - I**  
**ENGLISH — GENERAL**  
**PAPER - I**  
**( NEW & OLD SYLLABUS )**

Duration : 3 Hours ]

[ Maximum 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.*

**( NEW SYLLABUS )**

**GROUP - A**

1. Answer any *four* questions from the following, each in about 500 words :

4 × 15 = 60

- (a) How does Wordsworth bring out the relation between man and nature ? Discuss with close reference to the poems 'Education of Nature' and 'The World is Too Much With Us'.
- (b) 'If winter comes, can spring be far behind ?' — What is the source of the line ? When and why does the poet voice this note of optimism ?
- (c) What is an Ode ? How does Keats use the form of an ode to present the conflict between permanence and flux in 'Ode to Nightingale' ?

- (d) Discuss the philosophy of the Victorian age as expressed in Tennyson's 'Ulysses'.
- (e) Make a critical estimate of Browning's 'Porphyria's Lover' as a dramatic monologue.
- (f) What are the three images used by Thomas Hardy in 'In Time of the Breaking of Nations' to express the central theme ?
- (g) Give the substance of Matthew Arnold's poem 'Dover Beach'. Is the poem totally pessimistic ? Justify your answer.
- (h) How far does Wilfred Owen's poem 'Strange Meeting' bring out his attitude to war ?
- (i) 'Yeats is a modern poet with the touch and feel of a romantic.' — How far does the poem 'Lake Isle of Innisfree' reflect this ?
- (j) Discuss the aptness of the title of Auden's poem 'Musee des Beaux Arts'.

2. Answer any *three* of the following, each in about 200 words : 3 × 5 = 15

- (a) Explain with reference to the context :  
'Adieu ! the Fancy cannot cheat so well  
As she is farned to do, deceiving elf.'
- (b) 'Her clarion o'er the dreaming earth, ...' — Locate the quoted line. What is meant by the word 'clarion' ? What impact does this 'clarion' have on the earth ?
- (c) 'Thus Nature spake — the work was done' — What did Nature say ? Explain the expression 'the work was done'. What impact did Nature's ruling have on the speaker ?

- (d) "White legs disappearing into the green water" — Whose legs are referred to? What is the painting suggested here? Why?
- (e) Locate and annotate :  
'I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore.'
- (f) 'It may be we shall touch the Happy Isles,  
And see the great Achilles, whom we knew.'  
Who says this and to whom? What is referred to as the 'Happy Isles'?  
Who is Achilles?

**GROUP - B**

3. Identify the figures of speech in any *five* of the following : 5 × 2 = 10
- (a) Sceptre and Crown / Must tumble down.
- (b) The whole sky burned with fury.
- (c) He is now in the sunset of his days.
- (d) To rust unburnished, not to shine in use.
- (e) Silence is eloquent.
- (f) Out, out, brief candle!
- (g) In a wailful choir the small gnats mourn.
- (h) The press weilds great power.
- (i) The child is father of the Man.
- (j) All Arabic breathes from yonder box.
4. (a) Write a letter to the State Electricity Board complaining about frequent power cuts in your locality. 15

OR

- (b) Write an application to the manager of a bank applying for the post of cashier.

**( OLD SYLLABUS )**

1. Answer any *three* of the following questions : 3 × 16 = 48
- (a) How does the poet propose to immortalise the youth and beauty of his friend in the sonnet 'Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day' ?
  - (b) Discuss the central theme of Milton's "On His Blindness" .
  - (c) Discuss Wordsworth's "Three Years She Grew" as a representative of Nature poetry.
  - (d) What is an Ode ? Analyse the use of images in Keats' "Ode to Autumn".
  - (e) Attempt a critical analysis of Shelley's "To a Skylark".
  - (f) Analyse Tennyson's poem "Ulysses" as a dramatic monologue.
  - (g) Comment on the significance of the title "The Last Ride Together".
  - (h) Write a critical note on the theme and imagery of "The Wild Swans at Coole".
  - (i) Discuss Auden's representation of nature in "Look Stranger".
2. Answer any *six* of the following questions : 6 × 2 = 12
- (a) Explain the meaning of the following line :  
"Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May".
  - (b) "To serve therewith my Maker." — Explain the line.

- (c) Why were "Those paths so dear" to the poet ?
  - (d) Identify one auditory image in Shelley's "To a Skylark" and explain.
  - (e) Describe the music of Autumn after Keats.
  - (f) "To follow knowledge like a sinking star." — Explain the use of simile.
  - (g) How many swans did Yeats count in "The Wild Swans at Coole" ?
  - (h) Why does the speaker desire for the last ride in Browning's poem ?
  - (i) Why does Owen want to move the dead soldier into the sun ?
  - (j) What is the meaning of "Futility" in Owen's poem ?
3. Write a précis of the following passage and add a suitable title : 16 + 4 = 20

Ours was the marsh country, down by the river, within, as the river wound, twenty miles of the sea. My first most vivid and broad impression of the identity of things, seems to me to have been gained on a memorable raw afternoon towards evening. At such a time I found out for certain, that this bleak place overgrown with nettles was the churchyard; and that Philip Pirrip, late of this parish, and also Georgiana wife of the above, were dead and buried; and that Alexander, Bartholomew, Abraham, Tobias, and Roger, infant children of the aforesaid, were also dead and buried; and that the dark flat wilderness beyond the churchyard, intersected with dykes and mounds and gates, with scattered

cattle feeding on it, was the marshes; and that the low leaden line beyond was the river; and that the distant savage lair from which the wind was rushing, was the sea; and that the small bundle of shivers growing afraid of it all, and beginning to cry, was Pip. 'Hold your noise !' Cried a terrible voice, as a man started up from among the graves at the side of the church porch. 'Keep still, you little devil, or I'll cut your throat !'

4. Identify and explain the figures of speech in any *four* of the following :

4 × 3 = 12

- (a) So let them sink as water in the sand.
- (b) To strive, to seek, to find and not to yield.
- (c) Life's but a walking shadow.
- (d) Beauty is truth, truth beauty.
- (e) The pen is mightier than sword.
- (f) Full fathom five thy father lies.
- (g) Shall I compare thee to a summer's day ?
- (h) Puff, powder, patches, Bible, billet doux.
- (i) He lay in the bed clutching a sleepless pillow.
- (j) Milton ! thou shouldst be living at this hour.

5. Punctuate the following extract : 8

there was a loud scandalized cry go away child go away this instant and an old woman with a switch in her hand came round the corner of a hut violently shooing away a crowd of naked children some more women followed clicking their tongues and exclaiming evidently there was something that the children ought not to have seen.

---