

West Bengal State University
B.A./B.Sc./B.Com (Honours, Major, General) Examinations, 2015
Part - II

ENGLISH - GENERAL
PAPER - III
(New and Old Syllabus)

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.

(New Syllabus)

1. Answer the following questions, each in about 500 words : 2 × 15 = 30

a) Write a note on the 'Masque' of the play, *The Tempest*.

Or

b) Comment on the father-daughter relationship as portrayed in the play, *The Tempest*.

c) Describe the ways in which Eliza Doolittle changes in the course of the play, *Pygmalion*.

Or

d) Comment on the different classes of society which is portrayed in the play, *Pygmalion*.

2. Locate and annotate the following excerpts each in about 200 words : $2 \times 5 = 10$

a) My library

Was dukedom large enough

Or

b) A fish : he smells

like a fish; a very ancient and fish-like smell; a kind of

Not of the newest Poor-John. A strange fish !

c) What you are to do without me I cannot imagine.

Or

d) I have never sneered in my life. Sneering doesn't become either the human face or the human soul. I am expressing my righteous contempt for Commercialism.

3. Give precise answers to the following questions : $10 \times 2 = 20$

a) What elements of revenge are present in the play, *The Tempest* ?

b) What does Prospero's mantle symbolize ?

- c) Who are the two spirits who reside on the island with Prospero and Miranda ?
- d) What description of the island does Gonzalo give ?
- e) Where does Ariel go when Prospero gives him his freedom ?
- f) What is the Pygmalion myth ?
- g) Mention any two peculiarities of the English language according to Prof. Higgins.
- h) Mention any two features of *Pygmalion* as a Problem play.
- i) What reason does Higgins give for deciding to take on the experiment with Eliza ?
- j) Write a brief note on Alfred Doolittle.

4. Write short notes on any *five* of the following literary terms : 5 × 2 = 10

a) Anagnorisis

b) Chorus

c) Unities

d) Catharsis

e) Comic relief

f) Irony

g) Denouement.

5. Answer any one of the following : 10

a) Write a dialogue between two friends regarding the importance of English language.

Or

b) Write a dialogue between a teacher and a student regarding recent situation of global terrorism.

6. Write a composition on any *one* of the following topics : 20

a) Women's empowerment in India

b) Impact of films on contemporary Indian youth.

(Old Syllabus)**Group - A**

1. Answer any *six* of the following questions : 6 × 2 = 12

- a) Why did Antonio borrow money from Shylock ?
- b) Who is 'a lady richly left' ?
- c) "Mislike me not for my complexion" , who says this and why ?
- d) "Antonio is a good man." — Identify the speaker and the context of this speech.
- e) What warning is given by the Soothsayer in *Julius Caesar* ?
- f) Why does Caesar prefer men about him that are fat rather than lean or thin ?
- g) "He is a noble Roman and well given" — who says this and whom does he refer to ?
- h) "How foolish do your tears seem new" — who says this and to whom ?
- i) "Don't call out, or you'll be shot." Who says this and to whom ?
- j) "There are only two sorts of soldiers." Who is the speaker ? What are the "two sorts of soldiers" referred to here ?
- k) Who in Shaw's play, is compared to Don Quixote and why ?
- l) Who is called the 'Chocolate cream soldier' and why ?

Group - B

2. Answer the following questions :

2 × 16 = 32

- a) i) Critically estimate the character of Portia as a Shakespearean heroine.
- ii) Critically analyse the plot structure of *The Merchant of Venice*.
- Or
- iii) Assess the character of Brutus as a tragic hero.
- Or
- iv) What are the circumstances leading to the murder of Julius Caesar ? Describe the murder scene.
- b) i) Discuss Shaw's *Arms and the Man* as an anti-romantic comedy.
- ii) Compare and contrast the characters of Louka and Nicola in Shaw's *Arms and the Man*.

3. Explain with reference to the context any *two* of the following :

2 × 8 = 16

- a) "Good night then, Casca. This disturbed sky is not to walk in."
- b) "For he can do no more than Caesar's arm when Caesar's head is off."
- c) "I will buy with you, sell with you, talk with you, walk with you and so following; but I will not eat with you, drink with you, nor pray with you."
- d) "But though I am a daughter to his blood I am not to his manners."
- e) "...the world is really a glorious world for women who can see its glory and men who can act its romance."
- f) "-- nine soldiers out of ten are born fools."

Group - C

4. Write an essay on any one of the following topics : 1 × 20 = 20
- a) The Role of Literature in Twenty-first Century IT Revolution
 - b) Literature and Culture.
 - c) Women in Modern Society.
 - d) The use of English language in India.
5. Write notes on any *five* of the following : 5 × 4 = 20
- a) Ode
 - b) Lyric
 - c) Sonnet
 - d) Epic
 - e) Dramatic monologue
 - f) Soliloquy
 - g) Symbol
 - h) Imagery.
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