



WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY

B.A. General PART-II Examinations, 2017

ENGLISH-GENERAL

PAPER-ENGG-III

NEW AND OLD SYLLABUS

Time Allotted: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 100

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.

New Syllabus

1. Answer any *two* questions from the following within 500 words each: 15×2 = 30
 - (a) Write a brief essay on Shakespeare's characterization of Prospero in *The Tempest*.
 - (b) Critically comment on the use of magic in *The Tempest*.
 - (c) Justify the appropriateness of the title of Shaw's *Pygmalion*.
 - (d) Critically comment on Shaw's portrayal of Eliza Doolittle.

2. Locate and annotate any *two* excerpts from the following within 200 words each: 5×2 = 10
 - (a) "This island's mine by Sycorax my mother,
Which thou takest from me."
 - (b) "Me, poor man, my library
Was dukedom large enough : of temporal royalties
He thinks me now incapable."
 - (c) "Yes, you squashed cabbage leaf, you disgrace
To the noble architecture of these columns,
You incarnate insult to the English language:
I could pass you off as the Queen of Sheba".

- (d) "What you are to do without me I cannot imagine".
3. Give precise answers to the following questions: 2×10 = 20
- (a) Who is Caliban? What is his relation with Prospero?
 - (b) What does Ariel do to Antonio and others after the shipwreck?
 - (c) Comment on Trinculo's first impression of Caliban.
 - (d) What does Caliban plan to do with Prospero for revenge?
 - (e) What is Miranda's first impression of Ferdinand?
 - (f) What does Eliza's act of fetching Higgins' slippers symbolize?
 - (g) Write a short note on Eliza's characteristics as a flower-girl.
 - (h) What happens when Eliza attempts to board a cab in Act I?
 - (i) What distinction does Higgins make between men and women?
 - (j) Discuss very briefly Higgins' theory of language.
4. Write short notes on any *five* from the following literary terms: 2×5 = 10
- (a) Aside
 - (b) Catharsis
 - (c) Comic relief
 - (d) Deus ex machina
 - (e) Hubris
 - (f) Hamartia
 - (g) Peripeteia
 - (h) Anagnorisis.
5. Answer any *one* question from the following: 10×1 = 10
- (a) Write a dialogue between two friends regarding the importance of English language in Post-Independent India.
 - (b) Write a dialogue between a teacher and a student regarding the importance of national integration for the progress and prosperity of the country.
6. Write a composition on any *one* from the following topics: 20×1 = 20
- (a) Society and Social Media.
 - (b) Women's Empowerment.

Old Syllabus

Group-A

1. Answer any *six* questions from the following: 2×6 = 12
- (a) "I am constant as the northern star". Who says this? What light does it throw on the character of the speaker?
 - (b) What is the Feast of Lupercal?
 - (c) "Let me have men about me that are fat". Who is the speaker? Whom does he have in mind while making this remark?
 - (d) "The last of all the Romans fare thee well." Who says this and in what context? Who is the person referred to?
 - (e) Who was Daniel? Who is compared to Daniel in *The Merchant of Venice* and why?
 - (f) "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?
 - (g) How much money does Antonio borrow from Shylock and for what duration?
 - (h) 'The quality of mercy is not strained' – Who says this and why?
 - (i) Why does Nicola want Louka to marry Sergius?
 - (j) Who is Don Quixote? Why does Bluntschli compare Sergius to Don Quixote?
 - (k) "Which of the six is the real man?" Who is the speaker? What are the six personalities referred to here?
 - (l) "Nine soldiers out of ten are born fools" – Who is the speaker? Explain the meaning of the given line.

Group-B

2. Answer any *two* questions from the following: 16×2 = 32
- (a) (i) Critically analyze Shakespeare's representation of the character of Shylock in "The Merchant of Venice".
OR
(ii) Briefly comment on the plot construction of "The Merchant of Venice".
 - (b) (i) Do you consider Brutus as a tragic hero in Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar"? Justify your answer.
OR
(ii) Discuss Shakespeare's use of the supernatural in 'Julius Caesar'.

(c) (i) Comment on the significance of the sub-title of 'Arms and the Man'.

OR

(ii) Briefly discuss Shaw's treatment of the female characters in "Arms and the Man".

3. Explain with reference to the context any **two** of the following: $8 \times 2 = 16$
- (a) "For look he smiles and Caesar doth not change".
 - (b) "Such men as he be never at heart's ease.
Whiles they behold a greater than themselves,
And therefore are they very dangerous".
 - (c) "But when this ring
Parts from this finger, then parts life from hence".
 - (d) "Away then! I am locked in one of them
If you do love me, you will find me out -."
 - (e) "You have a low shopkeeping mind. You think of things that would never
come into gentleman's head".
 - (f) "It proves that all our ideas were real after all".

Group-C

4. Write an essay on any **one** from the following: $20 \times 1 = 20$
- (a) The position of women in India today
 - (b) Uses and abuses of social networking
 - (c) Your favourite short story
 - (d) Environmental pollution in third-world countries.
5. Write short notes on any **five** from the following: $4 \times 5 = 20$
- (a) Dramatic monologue
 - (b) Epic
 - (c) Ode
 - (d) Sonnet
 - (e) Image
 - (f) Symbol
 - (g) Ballad
 - (h) Soliloquy.