

**West Bengal State University**  
**B.A./B.Sc./B.Com. ( Honours, Major, General ) Examinations, 2012**  
**PART-II**

**ENGLISH — Honours**  
**Paper-IV**

Duration : 4 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.*

**SECTION - 1**

1. Attempt any *two* of the following questions : 2 × 10 = 20
  - a) How did the concurrent 'rise' of the middle classes and the emergence of an increasingly female reading public affect the form and preoccupations of novels in the early eighteenth century ?
  - b) Assess the contribution of Samuel Richardson to eighteenth century fiction writing with special reference to any one of his works.
  - c) What do you understand by the term 'Gothic fiction' ? Write briefly on the contribution of any one writer of your choice.
  - d) Examine Thackeray as a satirist with special reference to any one of his novels.
2. Answer briefly any *two* of the following questions : 2 × 5 = 10
  - a) What role did the institutions like literary reviews and libraries play in the novel's early reception ?
  - b) Account for the popularity of *Robinson Crusoe*.
  - c) Mention three characteristics of the *Waverley* novels by Scott.
  - d) Give three features that make *Middlemarch* a representative novel of the Victorian period.

**SECTION - 2**

3. Answer briefly any *four* of the following questions : 4 × 5 = 20
- a) Account for the rise of the periodical essay in England. When and why did such a genre become popular ?
  - b) Illustrate two characteristics of Addison's prose style from 'The Spectator' ( Paper I ).
  - c) Cite two examples to show Lamb's skill in portraying people with reference to 'Dream Children'.
  - d) Name three writers of non-fictional prose of the Romantic period and state two characteristics of the writing of any one of them.
  - e) Assess briefly the importance of J. S. Mill in the field of English prose.
  - f) Comment on Matthew Arnold's literary criticism in the context of Victorian non-fictional prose.

**SECTION - 3**

4. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 1 × 15 = 15
- a) What role does money, education and property rights play in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* ?
  - b) '*Pride and Prejudice* is not a story of love at first sight but of love arrived at. Discuss.
  - c) How does Brontë depict high society and wealthy aristocrats in *Jane Eyre* ? What are their virtues and what are their flaws ?
  - d) How has Bertha Mason been characterised by Brontë ? How is the character related to that of the protagonist Jane Eyre ?
5. Write briefly on any *one* of the following questions : 1 × 5 = 5
- a) How does the letter sent by Mr. Collins to Mr. Bennet reveal Mr. Collins's personality ?
  - b) Who are the Gardiners ? What role do they play in *Pride and Prejudice* ?
  - c) What role do first impressions play in *Pride and Prejudice* ? Give two examples.
  - d) Do the paintings made by Jane have any significance or meaning in the novel ?
  - e) What caused the destruction of Thornfield ? What happened to Mr. Rochester and his wife ?
  - f) Why does Jane refuse to marry St. John Rivers ?

6. Answer the following multiple choice questions from either Group A or Group B.  
Indicate clearly which group you are attempting :  $5 \times 1 = 5$

**GROUP - A**

- a) What feature of Elizabeth initially attracts Darcy ?
- Her cheerfulness
  - Her intelligence
  - Her eyes
  - Her smile.
- b) Popular and lively dance-form imported from France used in *Pride and Prejudice* is :
- Quadrille
  - Boulanger
  - Ball
  - Ballet.
- c) What is the name of the Bennets' estate ?
- Pemberley
  - Longbourn
  - Rosings
  - Netherfield.
- d) A 'chaise and four' refers to
- a piece of furniture
  - a coach drawn by four horses
  - a card game
  - a ball-room dance.
- e) The name of the daughter of Catherine de Bourgh is
- Miss Hurst
  - Georgiana
  - Anne
  - Mary.

**GROUP - B**

- a) Helen Burns is Jane Eyre's
- sister
  - cousin
  - friend
  - teacher.

- b) Jane Eyre was sent to
  - i) Lockwood Asylum
  - ii) Lowood Asylum
  - iii) Thornfield Hall.
- c) What is the colour of the room Jane is locked in at Gateshead ?
  - i) Blue
  - ii) Fuchsia
  - iii) Green
  - iv) Red.
- d) In the charade, Rochester puts on a disguise of
  - i) a stranger from Jamaica
  - ii) a gypsy woman
  - iii) a missionary
  - iv) a school teacher.
- e) In the end where do Jane and Mr. Rochester live ?
  - i) Ferngully
  - ii) Ferndale
  - iii) Fernfield
  - iv) Ferndean.

**SECTION - 4**

7. Attempt any *one* of the following questions : 1 × 15 =
- a) In what ways does Egdon Heath function as an important force in *The Return of the Native* ?
  - b) Critically assess the role of Diggory Venn in *The Return of the Native*.
  - c) Does Bathsheba Everdene's character change in the course of the novel ? What evidence is there that she learns from experience ?
  - d) Discuss, with reference to the text, Hardy's use of the narrative point of view in *Far From the Madding Crowd*.
  - e) Discuss the tripartite structure of *Hard Times*. How does it underline the message of the novel ?
  - f) Critically examine Dickens's portrayal of Stephen Blackpool in *Hard Times*.
  - g) Critically assess the portrayal of the cruelty of institutions and bureaucracy toward the unfortunate, in *Oliver Twist*.
  - h) Examine the role of Nancy in Oliver's life.

Attempt any one of the following :

1 × 5 = 5

- a) What is the Gunpowder plot ?
- b) Why did Wildeve's first attempt to marry Thomasin fail ?
- c) Who is the narrator of *The Return of the Native* ? Comment on his style of narration.
- d) What profession did Troy take up after leaving his wife ? Describe his new profession.
- e) Describe one aspect of farm life as portrayed in *Far from the Madding Crowd*.
- f) How does Boldwood know that Bathsheba is the one who has sent him the Valentine ?
- g) Why did Bounderby lie about his background ?
- h) What role does Sissy Jupe play in Tom's life in *Hard Times* ?
- i) Briefly describe the Gradgrind home as presented in *Hard Times*.
- j) When does Oliver cry for the first time and why ?
- k) How are the names of many of the characters in *Oliver Twist* used as significant comments on their personalities ?
- l) Describe Oliver's first meeting with the Artful Dodger.

Answer the following multiple choice questions from any one of the four groups.

Indicate clearly which group you are attempting :

1 × 5 = 5

**GROUP - A**

- a) Mrs. Yeobright in *The Return of the Native* dies
  - i) by drowning
  - ii) due to snakebite
  - iii) by falling from a cliff
  - iv) a natural death.
- b) Mr. Yeobright found his vocation in the career of
  - i) a gardener
  - ii) an open-air preacher and lecturer
  - iii) a farmer
  - iv) a furze-cutter.
- c) At the end of the novel, the reddleman becomes
  - i) a dairy farmer
  - ii) a preacher
  - iii) an agriculturist
  - iv) a furze-cutter.

- d) Wildeve is the proprietor of
  - i) The Quiet Woman
  - ii) The Silent Woman
  - iii) Shadewater Weir
  - iv) Wildeve Gardens.
- e) Eustacia drowns in
  - i) Weir Wood reservoir
  - ii) Wessex waters
  - iii) Shade Water Weir
  - iv) Rushy Pond.

**GROUP - B**

- a) At the very first meeting, Gabriel Oak finds Bathsheba to be beautiful but
  - i) pride
  - ii) vanity
  - iii) treachery
  - iv) anger.
- b) Gabriel Oak's older dog was named
  - i) Tom
  - ii) Merrylegs
  - iii) George
  - iv) John.
- c) How many times does Bathsheba dismiss Gabriel ?
  - i) Only once
  - ii) Five times
  - iii) More than five times
  - iv) Twice.
- d) Who owned Weatherbury Farm ?
  - i) Bathsheba's uncle
  - ii) Her father
  - iii) Her aunt
  - iv) Bathsheba bought it with some money she had inherited.

- e) Hardy's *Far From the Madding Crowd* is a
- i) Wessex novel
  - ii) Sussex novel
  - iii) Wessex novel
  - iv) Casterbridge novel.

**GROUP - C**

- a) In the school run on 'Facts', the children are regarded as
- i) little angels
  - ii) little pitchers
  - iii) little workers
  - iv) little adults.
- b) Bunderby and Louisa set out for their honeymoon at
- i) Paris
  - ii) London
  - iii) Lyon
  - iv) Brighton.
- c) Late Stephen Blackpool is exonerated through announcements
- i) at Sleary Circus
  - ii) in the schoolroom
  - iii) in street Broad-sides
  - iv) on a tombstone.
- d) The ideal product of M'Choakunchild School is
- i) Tom
  - ii) Sissy
  - iii) Louisa
  - iv) Bitzer.
- e) Coketown is a literary representation of which major city ?
- i) London
  - ii) Liverpool
  - iii) Birmingham
  - iv) Manchester.

## GROUP - D

- a) Which of the following best describes *Oliver Twist* ?
- i) Memoir
  - ii) Comedy of Manners
  - iii) Feminist novel
  - iv) Social novel.
- b) What is Artful Dodger's real name ?
- i) Bill Sikes
  - ii) Claypole
  - iii) Snodgrass
  - iv) Jack Dawkins.
- c) At Mr. Brownlow's home, Oliver is taken care of by
- i) Mrs. Mann
  - ii) Mrs. Sowerberry
  - iii) Nancy
  - iv) Mrs. Bedwin.
- d) Monks is actually named
- i) Edward Leeford
  - ii) Morris Bolter
  - iii) John Bumble
  - iv) Tom Claypole.
- e) How is Rose related to Oliver ?
- i) Oliver's aunt
  - ii) Oliver's cousin
  - iii) Oliver's half-sister
  - iv) Oliver's friend.
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