

2016

ENGLISH

( Major )

Paper : 5.5

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions.*

1. Answer any *three* questions of the following :

10×3=30

- (a) From your reading of Samuel Johnson's *Life of Pope*, make a critical assessment of his style of writing. Do you think that his *Life of Pope* qualifies to be termed an excellent specimen of critical biography?
- (b) Emily Dickinson's letters contain a wealth of images and metaphors. How do you think these allusions compliment her language in giving it the effect of immediacy and familiarity?

- (c) Comment on the regional flavour of R. K. Narayan's *My Days*. Do you think that Narayan, in his autobiography, treads the thin line between realistic representation and fictionalization of experience?
- (d) What do you learn about nineteenth century fiction from a reading of Anthony Trollope's *An Autobiography*? Comment on his views on the nature of the fictional genre of his age.
- (e) Show, from a reading of Ashutosh Mukherjee's prescribed letter, how he articulates the importance of autonomy to a university. What does the letter reveal about the nature of the environment for education in the early twentieth century?
- (f) From a reading of prescribed letters, make an assessment of the personality of Rabindranath Tagore. What do the letters reveal about the nature of his patriotism?
- (g) How does Franz Kafka represent his father Hermann Kafka in his *Letter to his Father*? Has he balanced in his assessment of his father?

2. Answer any *three* questions of the following :  
5×3=15
- (a) Write briefly on Johnson's views on Pope's translation of *Iliad*.
- (b) Should we consider Emily Dickinson's letters as simply an articulation of her private thoughts?
- (c) Comment on Trollope's views on the three clerks.
- (d) What were the formative influences, as detailed in *My Days*, on R. K. Narayan that nurtured his growth as a novelist?
- (e) Attempt a character sketch of Ashutosh Mukherjee on the evidence of the prescribed letter.
3. Write short notes on any *four* of the following :  
2×4=8
- (a) Franz Kafka's use of the epistolary mode of writing
- (b) Emily Dickinson's use of metaphors and images in her letters
- (c) Samuel Johnson's views on Pope's *Essay on Criticism*
- (d) Anthony Trollope's use of examples in his autobiographical account
- (e) Tagore on the treatment of people of Punjab

4. Give very short answer to the following (any seven) : 1×7=7

- (a) "Declare, O Goddess, what offended Power." Name the essay from which this has been extracted.
- (b) In which of the prescribed essays do you come across a mention of Charles Merivale's *History of the Romans under the Empire*?
- (c) To whom was Ashutosh Mukherjee's letter addressed?
- (d) "The logical consequence of your example, if followed, will be an elimination of all noble souls from the world." Name the prescribed text.
- (e) What does the term 'pavlatche' mean in Franz Kafka's prescribed text?
- (f) When was R. K. Narayan's *My Days* published?
- (g) In which of the prescribed texts do you come across a reference to 'Rasselas'?
- (h) In Dickinson's letters, Mary and Mamie are the same person.

(State Yes/No)

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