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( Held in 2022 )

**ENGLISH**

Paper : ENG-HE-5016

( **Popular Literature** )

( **Honours Elective** )

*Full Marks : 80*

*Time : 3 hours*

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

1. Answer the following questions : 1×10=10
- (a) What is the nationality of Hercule Poirot?
  - (b) What is the name of the house owned by Roger Ackroyd?
  - (c) Who forgets to deliver Ambedkar's letter to his father telling him of their plan to visit?

( 2 . )

Or

( For Visually Challenged Students )

When did Ambedkar write his autobiographical sketches compiled in *Autobiographical Notes*?

- (d) What was the colour of the White Rabbit's eyes?
- (e) Who is Dinah?
- (f) What is the name of Harry Potter's snowy owl?
- (g) "Everything is simple, if you arrange the facts methodically." Who says this and to whom?
- (h) Who is Hagrid?
- (i) "... [A]nd of course I knew you'd be just the same, just as strange, just as \_ as \_ abnormal ... ." Who says this and about whom?
- (j) Why does the Queen of Hearts order the execution of Alice after their initial conversation?

( 3 )

2. Answer the following questions : 2×5=10

- (a) "That depends a good deal on where you want to get to." Who says this and to whom and in what context?
- (b) What is Ambedkar's view on the attitudes of people belonging to various religions towards untouchability?

Or

( For Visually Challenged Students )

What, for Ambedkar, is the value of education in the face of social and political discrimination?

- (c) "It takes a great deal of bravery to stand up to our enemies, but just as much to stand up to our friends." Who says this and in what context?
- (d) What does the word 'Muggle' refer to and what characteristics is it associated with?
- (e) Who is Ralph Paton and why is he suspected to murdering Roger Ackroyd?

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

5×4=20

- (a) Write a short note on Roger Ackroyd in *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* .
- (b) Write a short note on the use of fantasy and nonsense in *Alice in Wonderland*.
- (c) How and to what end is the motif of blackmail used in *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* ?
- (d) Write a short note on the Queen of Hearts in *Alice in Wonderland*.
- (e) Write a short note on the Dursleys in *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*.
- (f) Write a short note on the use of water as a motif/trope in *Bhimayana*.

Or

**( For Visually Challenged Students )**

What does Ambedkar say of the Mahar Community to which he belonged? Write a short critical note.

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

10×4=40

- (a) Examine how the coming-of-age theme is explored in *Alice in Wonderland* and *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, taking into account the differing contexts of the two texts.
- (b) Write a critical essay comparing the representation of the child's perspective in *Alice in Wonderland* and *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*.
- (c) How is the form of the graphic novel used to highlight the issue of untouchability in particular and the Dalit experience in general in *Bhimayana : Experiences of Untouchability*? Discuss using relevant illustrations from the text.

Or

**( For Visually Challenged Students )**

How does Ambedkar chart his route towards an identity of his own through his experiences of untouchability? Discuss, using relevant instances from his *Autobiographical Notes*.

- (d) Examine the intersections of caste and gender in *Bhimayana*, using examples from the text.

Or

**( For Visually Challenged Students )**

Discuss critically, the distinctive characteristics of Ambedkar's *Autobiographical Notes* that make this work a significant contribution to the genre of autobiography. Justify your answer with relevant illustrations from the text.

- (e) Critically examine Carroll's use of humour in *Alice in Wonderland*, taking into account the huge popularity enjoyed by the books among readers across generations.
- (f) Discuss the distinctive elements or characteristics of detective fiction using *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* as a representative example. Would you see this novel merely as 'popular literature'?

- (g) What do you understand by the term 'popular literature'? Can it be distinguished from canonical literature? Give a considered response, using the texts prescribed in this paper.
- (h) Write a critical note on the use of the first-person point-of-view/the use of a first-person narrative in *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*.

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