

B.A. Semester V (General) Examination 2020 (CBCS)

Subject: English

Paper: DSE 1A/2A

Attempt any one of the following sections

Section A: (British Literature)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to answer in their own words as far as practicable.

1. Answer **any six** of the following questions: 5x6=30
 - a. Briefly comment on Orlando's relationship with his brother Oliver in Shakespeare's play *As You Like It*.
 - b. Critically analyse Jacques's speech where he ruminates on the seven stages of man in *As You Like It*.
 - c. Discuss briefly the role of Touchstone in *As You Like It*.
 - d. On what point does Lynd agree with Epictetus in his essay 'On Not Being a Philosopher'?
 - e. Why does Lynd end his essay 'On Not Being a Philosopher' with the phrase 'it was only a dream'?
 - f. What conventional attitudes to death does the first speaker reveal in Hardy's poem 'Ah, Are You Digging on My Grave?'?
 - g. Discuss the irony implied in the dog being the digger of the woman's grave in Hardy's poem 'Ah, Are You Digging on My Grave?'.
 - h. Briefly write about the importance of the rhyme scheme and the metrical pattern of Hardy's poem 'Ah, Are You Digging on My Grave?'.

2. Answer **any three** of the following questions: 10x3=30
 - a. Discuss *As You Like It* as a romantic comedy.
 - b. Critically evaluate Rosalind's character in *As You Like It*.
 - c. Critically examine the major ideas in Robert Lynd's essay 'On Not Being a Philosopher'.

- d. Discuss the concept of the duality of human nature as reflected in Stevenson's novel *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*.
 - e. Discuss how Hardy's poem 'Ah, Are You Digging on My Grave?' elaborates on the power of death over mortal love or hate.
-

Section B: (Environment and Literature)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to answer in their own words as far as practicable.

1. Answer **any six** of the following questions: 5x6=30
 - a. Write a brief explanation of the following lines:
'O if we but knew what we do
When we delve or hew –
Hack and rack the growing green!'
 - b. Write a note on the ending of 'Daffodils No More'.
 - c. How does Mahasweta Devi suggest the dichotomy between the government sponsored narrative of progress and the reality of Pirtha?
 - d. Write a brief note on Puran Sahay as an objective observer in 'Pterodactyl'.
 - e. Comment on the request of Shankar, in 'Pterodactyl' when he says, 'Can you move far away? Very far? Very, very far?'
 - f. Write a short note on the relationship between Bisnu and Pritam Singh.
 - g. Attempt a brief explanation of the following lines:
'There was no need to hurry now. He would be with them for a long time . . . It was his home, and these were his fields!'
 - h. Write a note on the trees that Bond would miss in the coming days.

 - 2 Answer **any three** from the following questions. 10x3=30
 - a. Consider Hopkins' 'Binsey Poplars' as a dirge for a landscape that the poet had known intimately.
 - b. Would you call Ramel's 'Daffodils No More' a serious parody of an earlier poem by Wordsworth? Elucidate.
 - c. How does Mahasweta Devi's 'Pterodactyl' communicate 'the agony . . . of marginalised people all over the world'?
 - d. Write a brief note on the journey of Bishu from his poor village to the big city of Mussoorie and back home in 'Dust on the Mountain'.
 - e. How does Bond reconcile himself to utter despair due to the 'death of the trees'?
-