

B.A. Semester V (General) Examination 2021 (CBCS)

Subject: English

Paper: DSE 1A/2A

Attempt either Section A or Section B

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. Critically comment on the relationship between Rosalind and Celia in Shakespeare's play *As You Like It*.
- b. Comment briefly on the role of Duke Senior in Shakespeare's *As You Like It*.
- c. Briefly comment on the reconciliation between Oliver and Orlando in Shakespeare's play *As You Like It*.
- d. Critically comment on Lynd's critiquing of the philosopher's penchant for using jargon in his essay 'On Not Being a Philosopher'.
- e. In what context does Lynd mention Solomon in his essay 'On Not Being a Philosopher'?
- f. Briefly comment on the following lines:
Then who is digging on my grave?
My nearest dearest kin?
- g. Comment on the speaker's words in the last stanza of Hardy's poem 'Ah, Are You Digging on My Grave?'.
- h. Comment on the use of humour and irony in Hardy's poem 'Ah, Are You Digging on My Grave?'.

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

10x3=30

- a. Discuss the dynamics of court versus country in Shakespeare's play *As You like It*.
 - b. Discuss the role and significance of the character of Jacques in Shakespeare's play *As You like It*.
 - c. Respond critically to the impact of Emerson and Marcus Aurelius on Lynd as discussed by him in his essay 'On Not Being a Philosopher'.
 - d. The central theme of Stevenson's novel *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* is the contest between good and evil. Discuss.
 - e. Hardy's 'Ah, Are You Digging on My Grave?' reflects an interest in death and events beyond everyday reality. Do you agree? Give reasons in support of your answer.
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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. Briefly explain the following lines:

Ten or twelve, only ten or twelve
Strokes of havoc unselfe
The sweet especial scene,
Rural scene, a rural scene,
Sweet especial rural scene.

- b. Write a brief note on 'Daffodils No More' as a parody of a previous poem.
- c. Briefly comment on the significance of the return of the prehistoric creature in Mahasweta Devi's 'Pterodactyl'.
- d. Briefly write about Puran Sahay's family background.
- e. Comment on the final transformation of Puran Sahay from a distant spectator to a person with the following understanding: 'Love, excruciating love, let that be the first step'.
- f. Write a note on the appropriateness of the title of 'Dust on the Mountain'.
- g. Attempt a brief explanation of the following line:
'He felt very big and very strong as he came striding over the land he loved.'
- h. Briefly explain why Bond concludes 'Death of the Trees' with this utterance: "Never mind. Men come and go; the mountains remain".

2. Attempt *any three* of the following questions:

10x3=30

- a. How does Hopkins in his poem 'Binsey Poplars' mourn the loss of the aspen trees?
 - b. How does Ramel's 'Daffodils No More' deal with the negative effects of industrialization upon nature?
 - c. How does Mahasweta Devi focus on the cultural violence perpetrated against the adivasis in her short story 'Pterodactyl'?
 - d. Why was Bishu compelled to leave his small village and search for a job in the big city?
 - e. How does Bond deal with such varied emotions as loss, progress, conflict and acceptance in 'Death of the Trees'?
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