

OLD

2010

M.A. Part-II Examination

ENGLISH

PAPER—Optional-II

Full Marks : 100

Time : 4 Hours

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate full marks.

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

Answer all questions.

Group - A

1. (a) In Huck, Twain invented an autobiographical voice richer than that of a first person narrator. Do you agree? State your reasons. 16

Or

- (b) Critically examine the function of symbols of *Moby Dick*. 16

Or

- (c) Show how Hemingway brings out the dignity of Santiago's struggle through Biblical parallels in *The Old Man and the Sea*. 16

(Turn Over)

Group - B

2. (a) Do you agree to the statement that *The Grapes of Wrath* chronicles the plight of the Americans during the Great Depression? Give suitable illustrations. 16

Or

- (b) *The Sound and the Fury* is a novel that ruptures the conventional concept of time. Discuss. 16

Or

- (c) Examine how *The Bluest Eye* narrates the problematic of racism, incest and child molestation in the US. 16

Group - C

3. (a) Consider Walt Whitman as a poet of democracy. 16

Or

- (b) Discuss how Robert Frost uses colloquial speeches and pictures of rural life in order to deal with complex, social and philosophical issues. 16

Or

- (c) Critically examine Emily Dickinson's poems as specimens of 'Confessional' poetry with reference to the poems you have read. 16

Or

- (d) Consider how Allen Ginsberg's poems combine elements of protest with various Eastern religious beliefs. 16

Group - D

4. (a) Does Willy Loman reach the height of a tragic hero? Give reasons for your answer.

Or

- (b) *The Glass Menagerie* is an elegy mourning the loss of hope and dream. Discuss. 16

Or

- (c) Attempt a Freudian reading of *Mourning Becomes Electra*. 16

Group - E

5. (a) Discuss how in *The American Scholar* Emerson justifies that a scholar becomes extraordinary when he learns from life. 16

Or

- (b) How does Thoreau combine the voyage of spiritual discovery with the manual of self-reliance in *Walden*? Illustrate from the text.

Or

- (c) Show how Maxine Hong Kingston uses the 'talk story' mode to speak about gender and racial oppression in *The Woman Warrior*. 16

Group - F

6. Comment on any four of the following : 5×4
- (a) New England in Robert Frost's poems.
 - (b) 'Death wish' in Emily Dickinson's poetry.
 - (c) Linda's concluding words in *Death of a Salesman* : 'We are free ...'.
 - (d) Significance of 'madness' in Ginsberg's poetry.
 - (e) Significance of 'Death Valley' in *The Glass Menagerie*.
 - (f) 'Mourning' as a re-working of the Greek idea.
 - (g) The 'I' in Whitman's poem.
 - (h) Holocaust in Sylvia Plath's poetry.
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