

2017

ENGLISH

[General]

PAPER – I

Full Marks : 90

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the right hand margin indicate marks

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

Illustrate the answers wherever necessary

SECTION – I

1. Answer any two questions : 15 × 2

(a) How does Shakespeare represent 'love' as a force against 'Time' in 'Let me not to the Marriage of True Minds' ?

(b) Critically examine the central idea of Donne's 'Batter my heart'.

(c) Attempt a critical appreciation of Wordsworth's 'Strange fits of Passion'.

(d) Consider Tennyson's 'Crossing the Bar' as a meditative lyric.

(e) How does Matthew Arnold pay his tribute to Shakespeare ?

(f) How does Hardy's 'The Darkling Thrush' capture the conflicting moods of despair and hope ?

2. Explain, with reference to the context, any *three* of the following : 10×3

(a) "Doth God exact day-labour, light denied ?
I fondly ask."

(b) "Ethereal Minstrel ! pilgrim of the sky !
Dost thou despise the earth where cares
abound ?

(c) "It was a miracle of rare device
A sunny pleasure-dome with caves of ice."

- (d) "Teach me half the gladness
That thy brain must know
Such harmonius madness
From my lips would flow
The world should listen then, as I am listening
now."
- (e) "Where are the songs of spring ? Ay, where
are they ?
Think not of them, thou hast thy music,
too,—"
- (f) "Fail I alone, in words and deeds ? Why, all
men strive and who succeeds ?"

SECTION – II

(Unseen)

3. Write a precis of any *one* of the following passages and give a suitable title : 15 × 1

- (a) There is considerable confusion about the term 'English Literature' even today, 'English Literature', as studied in curricular world-wide, includes figures such as Walter Scott (Scottish), Oliver Goldsmith (Irish)

and James Joyce (Irish). It also includes Europeans like Joseph Conrad and authors who wrote a considerable body of work in other languages. Samuel Beckett, for instance, wrote in French. Thus 'English Literature' has subsumed under itself distinct literatures like Welsh and Scottish. 'Non-English' writers of Indian, African or other kinds of origin have, of course, bent and moulded the language to their purpose. The works of Irvine Welsh, Roddy Doyle and others in the second half of the twentieth century sought to capture Scottish dialect within the English language, often taking recourse to street talk, slang and working class styles.

Or

- (b) Student-life is the most formative period in human life. A student's young and energetic mind can capture things more easily than that of an adult person. It is the best period to learn from the parents or guardians, teachers,**

friends and from the world of nature. Study is of course an important exercise, but this cannot be all. A child must also learn to socialise and communicate with others. Virtues like fellow-feeling, courage, discipline and sportsperson like qualities develop from the experience of a playground. However, innocence of a student must not be affected by negative influences; hence it is the duty of the guardians to protect their young and sensitive minds from any kind of evil impacts. On the whole, student-life is very important in shapping the citizens of the future.

4. Identify and explain the figures of speech in any *three* of the following :

5 × 3

- (a) "Our sincerest laughter
With some pain is fraught."
- (b) "Sometimes too hot the eye of heaven
shines."

(c) "Like as the waves make towards the pebb'l'd shore so do our minutes hasten to their end."

(d) "Thou still unravish'd bride of quietness."

(e) One must respect the chair.
