Final Year Examination of the Three Year Degree Course, 2001

(Faculty of Humanities) ENGLISH LITERATURE Paper - II (Prose and Fiction)

Time : 3 Hours

[Maximum Marks :100]

The candidate are required to answer five questions in all, Q. No. 1 is compulsory and answer two from Section-A and two from Section-B All questions carry equal marks.

1. Explain with reference to the context any three of the following passages :

(a) In the course of a day's walk, you see, there is much variance in the mood. From the exhilaration of the start, to the happy phlegm of the arrival, the change is certainly great. As the day goes on, the traveller moves from the one extreme towards the other. He becomes more and more incorporated with the material landscape, and the open-air drunkenness grows upon him with great strides, until he posts along the road, and sees everything around him, as in a cheerful dream.

(b) It was nothing in itself, but it was enough to produce a mental state that checked the fickering return of life. It assumed a fantastic importance in the mind of the patient who, having survived the heavy blows of fate, died of something less than a pinprick. It is not difficult to understand that so fragile a hold of life might yield to the sudden discovery that you were lying in No. 13 bed.

(c) I will visit the grave of a saint or of a man whom I venerate privately for his virtues and deeds, but on my way I wish to do something a little difficult to show at what a price I hold communion with his resting place and also on my way I will see all I can of men and things; for anything great and worthy is but an ordinary thing transfigured, and if I am about to venerate a humanity absorbed into the divine, so it behaves me on my journey to it to enter into and delight into divine that is hidden in everything.

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(d) A boundary protects - But poor little thing - the boundary ought in its turn to be protected. Noise on the edge of it. Children throw stones. A little more, and then a little more, until we reach the sea. Happy Canute ! Happier Alexander ! And after all, why should even world be the limit of possession ?

(e) Today, the inventions of the scenario-writer go out from the Los Angeles accross the whole world. Countless audiences soak passively in the tepid bath of nonsense. No mental effort is demanded of them, no participation; they need only sit and keep their eyes open.

(f) A man leaves a congenial company with whom he has held full communion. He goes off to take his train and thinks to have left behind him souls still vibrating in harmony with his own. They recollect him with a peaceful love. If they return to his name it is with murmurs of approbation. He rolls home satisfied. But the root of his happiness lies deep in ignorance.

SECTION - A

2. What literacy qualities do you find in William Hazlitt's style after reading his essay "On Familiar Style".

3. What is actually a walking tour, according to R.L. Stevenson, it it is to be properly enjoyed how should it be gone upon ?

4. Give in detail the selected snobberies Aldous Huxley refers to in his essay "Selected Snobberies".

5. What has A.G. Gardiner to say about superstitions in his essay "On Superstitions" ? Does he believe in them ?

6. What is the effect of property on man, according to E.M. Foster as reflected in his essay "My Wood" ?

SECTION -B

7. Compare and contrast the characters of Tom Gradgrind and Louisa.

8. Discuss 'Hard Times' as a social novel.

9. Discuss in detail the use of symbolism in Hemingway's novel 'The Old Man and the Sea'.

10. All through the novel 'The Old Man and the Sea' there runs a stream of consciousness. Discuss.

OR

What kind of relationship do you find between the Old Man and the Child Merrolin ? Discuss.

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