



WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY

B.A. General PART-II Examinations, 2018

ENGLISH-GENERAL

PAPER-ENGG-II

Time Allotted: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 100

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

*Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.*

1. Answer any **one** question from the following within 500 words: 15×1 = 15
  - (a) Assess *David Copperfield* as a typical novel of the Victorian society.
  - (b) How does David's perspective as an adult narrator shape our understanding of the different character in the novel?
  
2. Answer any **one** question from the following within 500 words: 15×1 = 15
  - (a) Draw a short character sketch of Schoner as you have read in D.H. Lawrence's *The Prussian Officer*.
  - (b) Bring out the significance of the title of the short story *The Ox*.
  - (c) Analyse *The Fly* as a psychological novel.
  - (d) What role does the narrator play in Maugham's short story *The Lotus Eater*?
  
3. Explain any **two** from the following within 200 words each, with reference to the context: 5×2 = 10
  - (a) "From that time on, an undiscovered feeling remained between the two men".
  - (b) "All the time Mrs. Thurlow saved money. It was her creed".
  - (c) "But no tears came yet".
  - (d) "They are like tramcars travelling forever on selfsame rails".
  
4. Answer any **one** question from the following within 400 words: 10×1 = 10
  - (a) Francis Bacon's essay *Of Travel* uses travel as an agent of imparting education. – Discuss.
  - (b) Consider Addison as an essayist with reference to *The Spectator Papers*.
  - (c) Bring out the autobiographical elements in Charles Lamb's *Dream Children: A Reverie*.
  - (d) How does Orwell narrate his experience of Burmese life in *Shooting an Elephant*?

5. Explain any *two* from the following, within 200 words each, with reference to the context:
- (a) "I missed his kindness, and I missed his crossness, and wished him to be alive again."  
 (b) "Let Diaries, therefore, be brought in use."  
 (c) "Since I have raised to myself so great an Audience, I shall spare no Pains to make their Instruction agreeable..."  
 (d) "Among the Europeans opinion was divided."
6. Write short notes on any *five* of the following within 100 words each:  
 Bildungsroman, Epistolary novel, Realism, Stock characters, Point of view, Theme, Epic Novel, Omniscient narrator.
7. Read the following passage and answer the following questions:  
 An earthquake comes like a thief in the night, without warning. It was necessary, therefore to invent instruments that neither slumbered nor slept. Some devices were quite simple. One, for instance, consisted of rods of various lengths and thicknesses which would stand up on end like ninepins. When a shock came it shook the rigid table upon which these stood. If it were gentle, only the more unstable rods fell. If it were severe, they all fell. Thus, the rods by falling and by the direction in which they fell, recorded for the slumbering scientist, the strength of a shock that was too weak to waken him and the direction from which it came. But, instruments far more delicate than that were needed if any really serious advance was to be made.
- The ideal to be aimed at was to devise an instrument that could record with a pen on paper the movements, of the ground or of the table, as the quake passed by. While I write my pen moves but the paper keeps still. With practice, no doubt, I could, in time, learn to write by holding the pen still while the paper moved. That sounds a silly suggestion, but that was precisely the idea adopted in some of the early instruments (seismometers) for recording earthquake waves. But when table, penholder and paper are all moving how is it possible to write legibly? The key to a solution of that problem lay in an everyday observation. Why does a person standing in a bus or train tend to fall when a sudden start is made? It is because his feet move on, but his head stays still.
- (a) Why was it necessary to invent instruments that neither slumbered nor slept?  
 (b) Why does a person standing in a bus or train tend to fall when a sudden start is made?  
 (c) What was the ideal aimed at to devise an instrument?
8. Write a short story in about 500 words beginning with the following words: "Two friends were taking selfies on the railway track..."  
 $15 \times 1 = 15$