2022

ENGLISH

(Honours)

Paper : ENG-HC-5016

(British Literature : The 20th Century)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer any *ten* of the following as directed: 1×10=10

(a) What is Kurtz doing in the Congo?

(b) What does Kurtz talk to Marlow about on the boat?

(c) *The Second Coming* has inspired several works including Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart.*

(Write True or False)

(d) "And what rough beast, its hour come round at last,"
What does 'rough beast' refer to here?

(e) Who is the speaker in the poem, *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*?

(f) Whose line does Eliot parody with "In the room the women come and go"?

(g) What was the original title of *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*?

(h) Name the prescribed poem which describes the condition of a prostitute who is struggling to make her living.

(i) "I can see the Queen of England gazing / on my shape."
Who is the speaker here?

(j) What does the Hawk do in its sleep?

(k) What are the advantages that the Hawk mentions it possesses?

(l) Who is Bilquis in *My Beautiful Laundrette* ?

(m) What is Philip Larkin's intention in *Church Going*?

(n) Mrs. Dalloway leaves her house to buy flowers for what occasion?

(o) Who is riding in the important car that stops traffic and business as Clarissa does her shopping?

(p) How many children do Lucrezia and Septimus Smith have?

(q) What did the Magi see in the tavern?

(r) Who are the Magi?

2. Answer any *five* of the following questions : 2×5=10

(a) Why does Peter Walsh object to Hugh Whitbread?

(b) Why is Marlow telling us this story? What does he want to get out of it?

(c) In what way are Peter Walsh and Sally Seton similar?

(d) What is the relationship between Septimus and Clarissa in *Mrs Dalloway* ?

(e) How does *The Second Coming* use mythology and ancient themes to express the onset of modernity?

(f) In *Sailing to Byzantium*, how are themes of mortality and immortality developed?

(g) What personal connection did the name 'J. Alfred Prufrock' have for Eliot?

(h) How does Auden want Yeats to be remembered?

(i) Why does Auden say "He disappeared in the dead of winter:" in *In Memory of W. B. Yeats*?

(j) Why does the journey of the Magi called arduous and hazardous?

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 5×4=20

(a) What does Marlow respect about Kurtz? Does this respect in some ways seem justified or justifiable?

(b) What is 'the horror'? What is the significance of these being Kurtz's final words, his conclusion or judgement?

(c) While Virginia Woolf was writing *Mrs Dalloway*, she referred to it as *The Hours*. She changed the title but what evidence is there of her concern with time?

(d) Write in brief the role of time in *Mrs Dalloway*.

(e) What is the meaning of Clarissa's party? Why does the book end with a party and why is this party the most important event of the book?

(f) How does *The Second Coming* reflect the historical context of the time in which it was written?

(g) Explain the line "I have measured out my life with coffee spoons:" in *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*.

(h) Explain the lines "The words of a dead man/Are modified in the guts of the living" in *In Memory of W. B. Yeats*.

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 10×4=40

(a) How does Conrad depict Africans as different from Europeans? Does this characterization degrade them? Is Chinua Achebe right—is *Heart of Darkness* racist? Discuss.

(b) What is an interior monologue? Describe, using a specific character in *Mrs Dalloway*, how the monologue functions as a narrative and expository device.

(c) What does the novel, *Mrs Dalloway* suggest about transnational encounters and relations? How does gender get bound up in that relationship?

(d) Describe Yeats' *The Second Coming* in relationship to several works it has inspired. Why has *The Second Coming* persisted in the popular imagination?

(e) Discuss the poem, *Sailing to Byzantium* as a spiritual journey toward perfection and immortality.

(f) How does the imagery of passivity and pointlessness contribute to the theme of a spiritual wasteland in *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*?

(g) Write a critical appreciation of *Standing Female Nude*.

(h) Write a note on the use of imagery in Ted Hughes' *Hawk Roosting*.

(i) How does the poet use the theme of identity, alienation, and sexuality in Hanif Kureishi's *My Beautiful Laundrette*?

(j) Critically comment on the title of the poem, *Church Going* by Larkin.

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