

**KENDRAPARA AUTONOMOUS
COLLEGE**



**QUESTION BANK
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
&
FUNCTIONAL ENGLISH**

BERTOLT BRECHT: LIFE OF GALILEO

Long questions

14 Marks

1. How does Bertlot Brecht visualize Galileo Galilei? Is he a tragic character?
2. Trace the difficulties Galileo has to face before his research of life time smuggled out of Italy by his pupil Andrea Sarti.
3. Write a character sketch of Andrea Sarti.
4. Write a character sketch of Mrs Sarati.
5. Is Virginia's portrayal faithful to history? What liberties has Brecht taken with the character of Galileo's daughter in Life of Galileo?
6. Write a character sketch of Ludovico-Marsili. What makes him call of his marriage to Virginia?
7. Write a note on Brecht's portrayal in the church in Galileo's time.
8. Write short notes on Sagredo, Federzoni and The little monk.
9. In what sense is the "new age" a whore, spattered with blood"?
10. What does Galileo suggest about businessmen and their relationship to his new science?

Short Questions

6 Marks

1. What is the main theme of Galileo?
2. Who was Galileo?
3. What kind of play is “Life of Galileo”?
4. Where does the action take place in the first sense of Galileo?
5. Who represents Galileo?
6. Which model of solar system was proposed by Galileo?
7. Why did Brecht write “Life of Galileo”?
8. What are the discoveries of Galileo?
9. What is Galileo’s proportional compass?
10. What was Galileo’s personality like?
11. What are the five main contributions of Galileo?
12. What Galileo invented?
13. What is Galileo’s theory of motion?
14. Is Galileo a hero in Brecht’s play, “Life of Galileo”?
15. What invention is brought to Galileo’s attention in Scene I? What is its significance for him?

16. Is Galileo being honest when he calls the telescope “Christian” as he does in Scene II? Why?
17. What did Laymen call every object in the sky before the 17th century? Why?
18. Why does it appear that Galileo took back his teachings?
19. “Truth is the daughter of time, not of authority”, says Galileo, explain?
20. Why does Galileo recant?
21. Why does Ludovico refuse to marry Virginia?
22. Why is Andrea so disappointed in Galileo when he recants?
23. How does the play fit into Brecht’s vision of epic theatre?
24. Is Galileo a hero or an antihero?

JOHN DRYDEN: ALL FOR LOVE

Long questions

14Marks

1. Do you think that the observance of the three unities in “All for Love” serves a useful purpose? Give reason for your answer.
2. Discuss the greatness and magnificence of Cleopatra’s love for Antony, as depicted by Dryden in “All for Love”?
3. “The development of the action proceeds by a series of oscillations on the part of Antony between his love for Cleopatra and the claims of empire, family and friendship represented by his Roman loyalties”. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
4. What are the features of Dryden’s heroic tragedy? How is All for love a heroic tragedy?
5. What is the significance of the title of the play “All for Love” by John Dryden?
6. How is the theme of love expressed in “All for Love”?
7. Discuss “All for love” as a classical tragedy.
8. What is the conflict in the play and who is the antagonist?
9. Describe Alexa’s role in the conflict.

10. Refer to the historical background of “All for Love”.
11. What is the conflict in the play and who is the antagonist?
12. What do we know about Antony’s temperament from the way he describes himself and the way other characters describe him?
13. Describe Alexa’s role in the conflict.
14. What is the significance of the title of the play All For Love by John Dryden?
15. What are the features of Dryden’s heroic tragedy? How is All For Love an heroic tragedy?
16. Describe All For Love as a classical tragedy.
17. How is the theme of love expressed in All For Love?

Short Question

6Marks

1. What moral do you draw from Dryden’s “All for Love”? Give a reasoned answer.
2. Show how in “All for Love” Dryden illustrates the triumph of passion over reason.
3. From your study of “All for Love”, bring out Dryden’s skill plot construction.
4. Comment on Dryden’s observance of the three unities of the play “All for Love”?

5. Show how in the course of play, “All for Love”, Antony oscillates from one allegiance to another.
6. Would you call “All for Love” a great tragedy? What are its deficiencies, if any?
7. Comment on the greatness of Antony as a tragic hero.
8. Does Cleopatra attain the greatness of a tragic heroic in Dryden’s “All for love”?
9. Write a short note on the use of the unities of time, place and action in “All for Love”?
10. What is the concept of “All for Love”?
11. What is the significance of the title “All for Love”?
12. What is major conflict in “All for Love”?
13. How is “All for Love” a tragedy?
14. What is the source of “All for Love”?
15. What is the subtitle of “All for Love”?
16. Who is ‘Octavius’ in “All for Love”?
17. Why did Dryden write “All for Love”?
18. Is Antony a tragic hero in “All for Love”?
19. What is notable about Alexas in “All for Love”?
20. Who are “All for Love” characters?

ARTHUR MILLER: DEATH OF A SALESMAN

Long Questions

14 Marks

1. Discuss “Death of a Salesman” as a tragedy.
2. How much of Willy’s tragedy is the result of American society and how much of it caused by himself?
3. Bring out the symbolic elements in “Death of a Salesman”.
4. “Death of A Salesman” while “undeniably affecting, is without profound, tragic significance”. Discuss.
5. Show how the technique of “Death of a Salesman” is a blend of realism and expressionism.
6. Explain with reference to “Death of a Salesman” how Miller’s tragic vision is distinctively modern.
7. What impression have you formed of the character of Willy Loman? Would you regard him as a tragic hero?
8. Examine the view that the dream technique used by Miller in “Death of a Salesman” enhances the tragic effect.
9. What opinion have you formed about Linda Loman?
10. Write brief character sketches of Biff and Happy.

11. What is the relationship between friendship, popularity and success in Death of a Salesman?
12. Is Willy a failure?
13. Is Biff right in saying of Willy that “the man did not know who he was?”
14. How are Happy and Biff each impacted by Willy’s daunting expectations for them?
15. How does Death of a Salesman critique today’s capitalist society?
16. How does the play’s title, Death of a Salesman, contrast the ideal and the real in the play?

Short Questions

6 Marks

1. What is message behind “Death of a Salesman”?
2. Who is Willy’s wife?
3. What are the elements of “Death of a Salesman”?
4. What type of tragedy is “Death of a Salesman”?
5. What are the important dialogues of “Death of a Salesman”?
6. Is “Death of a Salesman” a modern tragedy?
7. What is Willy’s tragic flaw?
8. What was a Willy’s problem in “Death of a Salesman”?
9. Who is the tragic villain in “Death of a Salesman”?

10. What does Ben symbolize in Death of a Salesman?
11. What does woman symbolize in “Death of a Salesman”?
12. What does the rubber represent in “Death of a Salesman”?
13. What does the fountain pen symbolize in “Death of a Salesman”?
14. What does Willy’s garden symbolize?
15. Does Willy Loman die a martyr? How do Linda and her son’s interpretations of his death differ?
16. Analyze the role of seeds in the final segment of Act-ii. What do they stand for?
17. Who dies and what happens at the burial at the end of the “Death of a Salesman”?
18. How can you describe the relationship between Biff and Willy in “Death of a Salesman”?
19. Describe the relationship between Willy and his son in “Death of a Salesman”?
20. What does Willy mean when he says “you can’t eat the orange and throw the pill away –a man is not a piece of fruit”.....

HENRIK IBSEN: GHOSTS

Long Questions

14 Marks

1. Comment on the ideas, the background of the play “Ghosts” by Henrik Ibsen.
2. Give an introduction of the biographical sketch of Henrik Ibsen.
3. Describe the brief chronology about Henrik Ibsen.
4. Comment on the ideas of his work.
5. Write a short note about Henrik Ibsen and the problem drama or the drama of ideas.
6. Explain the significance of the title and the symbol of ghosts in the play. Describe the theme of the play.
7. Comment on Ibsen and feminism.
8. ‘Inherited convention not inherited disease’ is the subject of Ibsen’s “Ghosts”. Discuss.
9. Write a short note on Ibsen’s achievements as a dramatist.
10. Describe the moral message of the play “Ghosts” and write a note on Ibsen’s characterization.

11. Why does Mrs. Helene Alving chastise Pastor Manders for the way he has spoken to her in Act I of Ghosts?
12. Why in Act I of Ghosts does Pastor Manders feel he has the right to lecture Mrs. Helene Alving about her actions as a wife and mother?
13. How are Oswald Alving's artist friends and the men he derides as "respectable" examples of the theme truth versus lies in Act I of Ghosts?
14. How does Oswald Alving contrast his artist friends with people Pastor Manders considers respectable in Act I of Ghosts?

Short Questions

6 Marks

1. What is the significance of the title of Henrik Ibsen's "Ghosts"?
2. Write a short note on Ibsen and drama of ideas.
3. Describe the moral message of the play "Ghosts".
4. Describe the theme of "Ghosts".
5. Attempt a character sketch of Oswald.
6. Attempt a character sketch of Mrs. Alving.
7. Attempt a character sketch of Regina.
8. In what sense is Pastor Manders a conformist?
9. Write a short note on Ibsen and feminism.
10. Comment on the structure and technique of "Ghosts".

11. What prompts Mrs. Alving to set up the orphanage as a memorial to her husband?
12. Explain the relationship between Oswald and Regina.
13. How does Ibsen portray the female characters in the play "Ghosts"?
14. Portray the character sketch of Jacob Engstrand.
15. Write a note on Ibsen's characterization.
16. What exactly did Oswald do in Paris that makes him believe he earned syphilis?

STRUCTURALISM: SAUSSURE: "THE NATURE OF LINGUISTIC SIGN"

Long Questions

14 marks

1. Write a note on structuralism.
2. Define the terms that are related to understand structuralism.
3. What is the nature of linguistic sign according to Ferdinand de Saussure?
4. What is the nature of the linguistic sign?
5. What does Saussure mean by linguistic value of sign?
6. Why is the linguistic sign a psychological entity?
7. What does it mean to say that language's essential feature is the "union of meanings and sound-images"?
8. What does Saussure mean when he says that language "exists only by virtue of a sort of contract signed by the members of a community"?
9. What is the relationship of a "sign" to the concept and sound image?
10. What are the signifier and signified?
11. What is meant by the notion that the signifier is linear?
12. What does Saussure mean by the term "linguistic value"?
13. What are some striking examples of different features of different languages?

14. What determines whether a different pronunciation changes the meaning of a word?
15. How is the freedom of the individual speaker consistent with the prescriptions of collective usage?

Short questions

6 marks

1. Give a brief introduction of Ferdinand de Saussure.
2. What is structuralism?
3. Explain the concept “Binary opposition” in structuralism.
4. How are syntagmatic and paradigmatic relationship related?
5. How synchronic and diachronic linguistics are described by Ferdinand de Saussure?
6. What are signs?
7. Relationship between signifier and signified is arbitrary. Explain.
8. Define Langue and Parole.
9. What are the concepts of “langue” and “parole”?
10. Explain what Ferdinand de Saussure means when he says that language is a system?
11. Describe the key points in Saussure’s essay “The Object of Study”.

FEMINIST CRITICISM: THE SECOND SEX: SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR

Long Questions

14 marks

1. Write a note on Feminist.
2. What are the main concerns of feminist literary theory and criticism?
3. Analyze the strengths and limitations of Beauvoir's "The Second Sex".
4. What is the significance of the title of "The Second Sex"?
5. Simone de Beauvoir states, "One is not born, but rather becomes a woman".
What does she mean by that?
6. What did Simone de Beauvoir mean by labeling women as "The Second Sex"?
7. Explain the concept myth from the text "The Second Sex" as explained by Simone de Beauvoir.
8. In 'The Second Sex, how are women presented as vulnerable and victims of patriarchy?
9. What role does The Second Sex play in contemporary feminist thought?
10. Describe myth and reality in The Second Sex.
11. Why does Simone de Beauvoir begin with the question: what is a woman?
12. What does it mean to be the "Subject, the Absolute"?
13. What does it mean to be the "Other", according to Simone de Beauvoir?

14. Are women different from men in important ways but still their equals?
What would Simone de Beauvoir say about this?
15. Do we lose something important when we go about her mode of emancipation?
16. How does Simone de Beauvoir think we should go about the emancipation of women? What are the devilish challenges that stand in the way of emancipation?
17. How does one become a woman according Simone de Beauvoir? What is the role of biological and anatomical destiny in this process?
18. What are the characteristics that a girl is raised to embody? How do they contrast with those that boys are raised to embody?

Short Questions

6 marks

1. Elaborate the term Feminist criticism with example.
2. What are the basic tenets of feminist criticism?
3. Write a note on Gynocriticism.
4. What are some critical works on feminism?
5. Give a brief introduction about Simone de Beauvoir.
6. According to Simone de Beauvoir what are the different perspectives to define a woman.
7. What Myths about women does Simone de Beauvoir refer in The Second Sex.

BEN JOHNSON: VOLPONE

Long Questions

14 marks

1. Write the summary of the play.
2. Write the Critical Evaluation and Appreciation of Volpone.
3. Discuss on the themes of Volpone.
4. Write the plot construction of volpone.
5. Sketch the character of 'the Greedy Trio' and "The Deformed Trio' in the play Volpone.
6. How far do you agree with the statement that Volpone is a satire on 'greed'?
7. In what way does Johnson in Volpone deviate from the theory of drama?
8. "The Fox is a Renaissance not a medieval morality". Discuss.
9. Discuss the merits of Volpone as a satire on the contemporary life.
10. Discuss the Dramatic irony in Volpone .
11. How far does Volpone combine the elements of both tragedy and comedy?
12. Discuss Volpone as a villain-hero.
13. Discuss briefly Jonson's classicism as seen in Volpone.
14. Can we view Volpone as criticism of modern capitalistic practice ?
15. Discuss the importance of the subplot in Volpone.

16. Bring out the irony behind Mosca's self congratulatory soliloquy in the first scene of the Third Act.
17. Discuss the significance of Sir Politic would-be and Peregrine .
18. Discuss the dramatic significance of Lady would-be .
19. Bring out the salient points Jonson raises in "The Dedication" of the play .
20. Bring out the significance of the mountebank scene.
21. Describe the function of the 'Jig' in the play.
22. What is the importance of the court scene in Volpone?

Short Questions

6marks

1. What is unique about Ben Jonson?
2. What does Jonson mean by comedy of humours?
3. How Volpone is a comedy of humour?
4. How the characterization in Ben Jonson's plays are done?
5. How Jonson influence on later writers?
6. Who is Mosca in Volpone ?
7. Who is Volpone ?
8. Who is Voltore ?
9. Who is Corvino ?
10. Who is Celia ?

11. Who is Bonario?

12. Who is Sir Politie would-be?

13. Who is Lady would be?

14. What are the Renaissance Elements in Volpone .

JANE AUSTEN: PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

Long Questions

14 marks

1. Comment on the character and role of the comic characters in *Pride and Prejudice*.
2. Show that in *Pride and Prejudice* money is the basic of social relation.
3. In what ways does Austen portray the family and community as responsible for its members?
4. What is a domestic novel? How far would it be correct to say that *Pride and Prejudice* is a domestic novel? Discuss with suitable illustration.
5. Write a note on the meaning and significance of the title “*Pride and Prejudice*”.
6. Discuss Jane Austen as a realist with special reference to *Pride and Prejudice*.
7. “John Austen is the last exquisite blossom of the 18th century”. Do you agree?
8. Why does Charlotte Lucas marry Mr. Collins?
9. Why is Lizzy, Mr. Benet’s favorite daughter?
10. Why does Darcy dislike Wickham?

11. Why does Lizzy form a negative first impression of Darcy?
12. Why does Lizzy reject Darcy's first proposal to her?
13. What is the significance of the novel's opening line?
14. According to Mr. Darcy what qualities make a woman "accomplished"?
15. What role do letters play in the novel?
16. What is revealed about the characters after Elizabeth rejects Mr. Collins's proposal?
17. How is the novel a critique of the social norms of its time?
18. How are Mr. and Mrs. Bennet different?
19. What is entailment and what role does it play in the novel?
20. Who is Lady Catherine de Bourgh and how does she influence the plot?
21. Why does Wickham lie to Elizabeth?
22. What role does prejudice play in the novel?
23. How does MR. Darcy fall in love with Elizabeth? What aspect of her character does he fall for, and where is this shown in the novel?
24. Why does Mrs. Bennet ask Jane to ride to Netherfield on horseback? What does this tell about Mrs. Bennet's character?
25. Describe the portrayal of women characters in the novel?
26. In which ways is Elizabeth different from the rest of the Bennet family?
What does the contrast reveal about her character?

27. In what ways does Austen portray the family and community as responsible for its members?
28. Explain why Austen ends her novel with a line about the Gardiners, even though they are minor characters in the novel?

Short Questions

6marks

1. Evaluate the contribution of Jane Austen as a novelist.
2. Estimate Jane Austen's place and influence in the history of the English novel.
3. What is the main message of Pride and Prejudice?
4. What are the themes of Pride and Prejudice?
5. What is the famous line in Pride and Prejudice?
6. "Limitation an outstanding characteristic of Jane Austen's art". Discuss.
7. Write an essay on Jane Austen's skill in plot construction.
8. "Jane Austen was a morality of 18th century". Justify.
9. In which ways is Elizabeth different from the rest of the Bennet family?
What does the contrast reveal about her character.
10. "Pride and Prejudice is a well – stored picture gallery .There is God's plenty in it". Justify clearly bringing out the variety of characters in the novel.

11. Form a critical estimate of Elizabeth Bennet's character.
12. Comment on the role of Mrs. Bennet in the novel.
13. What are the various stages through which Darcy sheds his pride?
14. Example Austen's portrayal of the women in the novel. In what ways does she sympathize with their plight, and in what ways is she unsympathetic?

ALFRED TENNYSON: “BREAK, BREAK, BREAK”

Long Questions

14 marks

1. Explain the lines in the context of the poem “Break, Break, Break”?
2. Repetition is another technique used in the poem “Break, Break, Break”. Which words have been repeated? Why do you think these words have been repeated. What effect does the repetition produce?
3. What is a critical appreciation of “Break, Break, Break” by Alfred Lord Tennyson?

Short Questions

6 marks

1. How does the poem “Break, Break, Break” show that life and nature go on despite what happens to human beings?
2. Why cannot the poet say what is on his mind in “Break, Break, Break”?
3. What image of the sea is presented in stanza 3 and what is its allegorical function?
4. What is the meaning of stately ships?
5. What is the meaning of vanished hand in “Break, Break, Break”?

ROBERT BROWNING: MY LAST DUCHESS

Long Questions

14 marks

1. How significant is the title of the poem “My Last Duchess” towards our understanding of the Duke and of his late wife?
2. What is the theme of the poem “My Last Duchess”? What was Browning trying to portray in the character of the Duke?
3. How is the poem “My Last Duchess” a dramatic monologue?
4. Analyse the character in “My Last Duchess”?
5. How does the Duke describe his last Duchess?
6. What does the poem, “My Last Duchess” reveal about and what is the theme?

Short Questions

6 marks

1. How does Robert Browning reveal his characters in “My Last Duchess”?
2. What are some symbols in “My Last Duchess”?
3. How can we interpret the lines “I gave commands / Then all smiles stopped together”?
4. What does the Duke in “My Last Duchess” reveal about himself through literary techniques?

MATTHEW ARNOLD: THE STUDY OF POETRY

1. Describe Arnold's idea that "poetry is the criticism of life".
2. What according to Matthew Arnold are the functions and qualification of a critic?
3. What are the main concepts in Matthew Arnold's the study of poetry?
4. What is the purpose of poetry according to Matthew Arnold?
5. What is good poetry according to Arnold's the study of poetry?
6. What is Matthew Arnold's touchstone method of criticism?
7. What do you think the speaker means when he says that "Geese are swans, and swans are geese"? Explain.
8. Matthew Arnold's poetry is a glory of vanished past. Describe.
9. What is the main theme of Matthew Arnold's "The Future"?
10. Describe Arnold's view of criticism of life?
11. Justify Matthew Arnold as a Victorian poet.
12. Discuss Matthew Arnold's concept of culture.
13. What are Matthew Arnold's views on education and democracy?
14. What is Matthew Arnold's view of poetry?
15. What are the key points of the essay The Study of Poetry?
16. How does Matthew Arnold use nature in his poems?

THOMAS GRAY: ELEGY WRITTEN IN A COUNTRY CHURCHYARD

Long Questions

14 marks

1. Write a critical appreciation of Thomas Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard".
2. What characteristics of Romanticism are found in the poem "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"?
3. What is the significance of the epitaph in the poem "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"?
4. What is the main message of "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"?
5. Discuss the major themes that are correlated by Thomas Gray in "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard".
6. What major characteristics of Romanticism are evident in the first 20 lines of the poem "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"?
7. How the poem "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" different from conventional elegies?

Short Questions

14 marks

1. What are Gray's attitudes towards death in "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"?
2. How does Thomas Gray glorify common men in his elegy?
3. What are some figures of speech in Thomas Gray's poem "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"?
4. What is the elegiac tone in "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" by Thomas Gray?
5. What does "full many a flower is born to blush unseen" mean?
6. What are some neo-classical features in Thomas Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"?
7. What is a "mute inglorious Milton" according to Thomas Gray?
8. How does "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" glorify or idealize the common man?
9. What time of day is pictured in the poem "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"?
10. What is Gray's attitude towards the elegy?
11. At what time of day does the speaker find himself in the country churchyard?

WILLIAM BLAKE: A POISON TREE

Long Questions

14 marks

1. What is the theme of the poem “A Poison Tree”?
2. What is the message of the poem “A Poison Tree”?
3. What is the moral of the poem “A Poison Tree”?
4. Summarize the poem “A Poison Tree”?
5. What is the tone of the of the poem “The Poison tree” by William Blake?

Short Questions

6 marks

1. What is a figure of speech in the poem “A Poison Tree” by William Blake?
2. What does the apple symbolize in the poem “The Poison Tree”?
3. Identify the figure of speech used in the poem “A Poison Tree”?
4. What is the meaning of the last two line of the poem “A Poison Tree”?
5. What is the extended metaphor of the poem “A Poison Tree”?
6. What does the speaker mean when he says he “stunned it with smiles” in the poem?
7. What is the speaker’s attitude in “A Poison Tree” by William Blake?

WILLIAM BLAKE: THE CHIMNEY SWEEPER

Long Question

14 marks

1. What is the theme of the poem “The Chimney Sweeper” by William Blake?
2. Discuss the theme of the exploitation in “The Chimney Sweeper”.
3. What is the main idea of “The Chimney Sweeper” poems by William Blake?
4. Critically analyze “The chimney sweeper” by William Blake.
5. Describe the tone of “The Chimney Sweeper”.
6. Who is Tom? What is the speaker’s relationship to little Tom?
7. Describe Tom’s dream.
8. What does Tom’s dream mean?
9. Why are they ‘naked and white’? What could be the ‘bags’ they leave behind?
10. Who is the Angel? How has the Angel helped Tom and the others?

Short Questions

6 marks

1. Who is Tom Dance and why was he crying?
2. How did the speaker console him?
3. What do these lines tell us about the speaker?
4. At what time did Tom and the speaker wake up?
5. Why is Tom Dance compared to a sheep in Blake’s “The Chimney Sweeper”?

6. Why did the speaker cry in “The Chimney Sweeper”?
7. In the last line, what is ironic in the speaker’s assurance that the dutiful need not fear harm? Who has failed in their duty to him?
8. Why is The Chimney Sweeper important?
9. What is the main message of The Chimney Sweeper?
10. What kind of life did the speaker and the other children have?
11. “So your chimneys I sweep and in soot I sleep”. What is the signification of this line?
12. Describe Tom’s dream?
13. What does Tom’s dream mean?
14. Who is the Angel? How has the Angel helped Tom and the others?
15. What of life did the Chimney Sweeper land?
16. What is the mood of The Chimney Sweeper?
17. What message is William Blake trying to give us through his poem “The Chimney Sweeper”?
18. What literary devices are used in The Chimney Sweeper?
19. What does the Angel tell Tom?
20. What does ‘coffins of black’ refer to?
21. What did the Angel do with the ‘bright key?’

T.S ELIOT: THE LOVE SONG OF J. ALFRED PRUFROCK

Long Question

14 marks

1. Explain the line “I have measured out my life with coffee spoons” in “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”.
2. Why is “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” a love story?
3. Characterize the tone of Eliot’s “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”?
4. What is the role of women in the poem “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”?
5. Explain the biblical allusion to John the Baptist in “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”.
6. What universal message is communication in “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”?

Short Question

6 marks

1. What does “women come and go/talking of Michelangelo” mean in T.S Eliot’s “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”?
2. What does it mean to eat a peach?
3. What is the yellow smoke in Prufrock?
4. “I have measured out my life with coffee spoons”. What is the author saying about the way that Prufrock has lived and is living his life?

5. What is the “overwhelming question” in “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” in reference to the epigraph of Dante’s inferno?
6. What does the epigraph mean in “Prufrock”?
7. What is Prufrock afraid to eat a peach?
8. What is the theme of “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”?
9. Where are three examples where an elevated style of language is juxtaposed with ordinary speech? What point is Eliot making about his modern day hero Prufrock?
10. What are specific details that show the speaker is growing old in “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” by T.S Eliot ?
11. Who is the speaker in “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”?
12. In “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” what kind of person is J. Alfred Prufrock?
13. What does the name Prufrock mean?
14. What is an example of alienation in “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”?
15. What genre of poetry is T.S Eliot working with in “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”?

WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS: THE SECOND COMING

Long Questions

14 marks

1. What is the basic theme of the poem “The Second Coming”?
2. Write a critical appreciation of W.B Yeats’s poem “The Second Coming”?
3. Identify the elements of symbolism in “The Second Comin” by W.B Yeats.
4. Explain this line from “The Second Coming”, “The falcon cannot hear the Falconer”.
5. What literary devices has Yeats used in “The Second Coming”?
6. What is the main theme of W.B Yeats’s poem “The Second Coming”?
7. Critically examine the thematic aspect of “The Second Coming” by W.B Yeats.
8. Discuss Yeats’s use of symbolism in “The Second Coming”.

Short Questions

6 marks

1. How would you explain the poem’s relationship to bible?
2. What is ‘gyre’ in “The Second Coming”?
3. How is “The Second Coming” a prophetic poem?
4. What is the significance of the falconer?

5. What is imagery is present in the poem “The Second Coming” by William Butler Yeats?
6. What draws the “ceremony of enounce” in “The Second Coming”?
7. What does the term “spiritual mundi” imply in stanza ii of “The Second Coming”?
8. What is the main idea in “The Second Coming”?
9. What is Yeats’s claim about the second coming?
10. What vision of future is suggested in the second half of “The Second Coming”?
11. Why does William Butler Yeats end the poem “The Second Coming” in a question?
12. What is the symbolical significance of the falcon and falconer in the poem “The Second Coming”?
13. How is the theme of change depicted in “The Second Coming”? What is the poet suggesting that we do for a solution?
14. What is the ‘best’ and the ‘worst’ in the poem “The Second Coming”?
15. In William Butler Yeats’s poem “The Second Coming”, what does the poet imagine?
16. How does W.B Yeats connect to western civilization in “The Second Coming”?

17. What are the binary opposition in W.B Yeats's "The Second Coming"?
18. Comment on the theme of Yeats's "The Second Coming".
19. Briefly explain at least two factors that influenced Yeats's writing of "The Second Coming"?
20. Explain the poem "The Second Coming" in light of World War II.
21. Show how "The Second Coming" is a comment on the weakening of Christian values.
22. What is the "vast image" in "The Second Coming"?

WILFRED OWEN: STRANGE MEETING

Long Questions

14 marks

1. What is the meaning of 'Strange Meeting' by Wilfred Owen?
2. Comment on the relationship between the two speakers in "Stranger Meeting"?
3. "Let us sleep now"..... What does the "sleep" signify in Wilfred Owen's "Strange Meeting"?
4. What techniques do Wilfred Owen use to create a sense of the effects of war in this poem "Stranger Meeting"?
5. What poetic devices and techniques Wilfred Owen use in "Stanger Meeting"?
6. Why Owen does uses two soldiers to expose the reality of war in "Strange Meeting"?
7. How does the form of "Stranger Meeting" by Wilfred Owen relate to its content?
8. What is a strong option portrayed by Wilfred Owen in "Strange Meeting"?
9. How can I formulate an argumentative thesis about Wilfred Owen's poem "Strange Meeting"?

SIEGFRIED SASSOON: SUICIDE IN THE TRENCHES

Long Questions

14 marks

1. What is the main theme of “Suicide in the Trenches” by Siegfried Sassoon?
2. What would be a critical appreciation of “Suicide in the Trenches”?
3. What is the message of the poem “Suicide in the Trenches”?
4. How does the poet present his ideas of war?
5. How is the theme explored in “Suicide in the Trenches”?
6. What is the context of the poem “Suicide in the Trenches”?
7. How does Sassoon emphasize the soldier’s innocence?
8. What is the impact of telling us about the soldier before he went to war?
9. What is Sassoon’s message in the last stanza?
10. How does Suicide in the Trenches make the reader feel and why?
11. What writing techniques are used in “Suicide in the Trenches” and why/how are they effective?

T.S ELIOT: TRADITION AND THE INDIVIDUAL TALENT

Long Questions

14 marks

1. Discuss T.S Eliot's objective theory in reference to his essay "Tradition and the Individual Talent". What influenced Eliot's critical theories?
2. Describe the "impersonal theory" of poetry by T.S Eliot in "Traditional and the Individual Talent".
3. How can one justify T.S Eliot as a traditional writer with individual talent?
4. What are T.S Eliot's concept of traditional and the individual talent as put forth in his essay?
5. How can I discuss the roles of the tradition and individual talent using this passage from Eliot's essay "Tradition and Individual Talent", "The past should be altered by the present as much as the present is directed by the past".
6. Discuss Eliot's view of the relationship between the individual poet and the tradition.
7. How far do you agree with Eliot's view that poetry is not an expression of personality but an escape from personality?
8. Define Eliot's concept of history.

9. What is Eliot's definition of criticism? What guidelines does he give for the practice of the criticism?
10. What is the relationship between the past and the present in the context of Literary Tradition?

Short Questions

6 marks

1. What is T.S Eliot view on historical sense in "Traditional and the Individual Talent"?
2. According to T.S Eliot what is the role of individual talent in the creative process of a poet as in "Tradition and the Individual Talent"?
3. What are some main points in T.S Eliot's essay "Tradition and the Individual Talent"?
4. What is T.S Eliot's concept of "Tradition and Individual Talent" as put forth in his essay "Tradition and the Individual Talent"?
5. According to Eliot in "Tradition and the Individual Talent" what is the relationship between past and present in the context of the literary tradition?
6. How might we briefly outline T.S Eliot's ideas in his essay "Tradition and the Individual Talent"?
7. What is "historical sense"?
8. What does "historical sense" do?

9. Explain theory of Impersonality.
10. What does Tradition and Individual Talent focus on?
11. What does Harold Bloom's term "the anxiety of influence" mean in relation to Eliot's Tradition and Individual Talent?
12. How does tradition influence the individual talent?
13. What is tradition and how is it linked with the individual talent and historical sense/
14. What is tradition and individual talent according to Eliot?
15. What are the characteristics of a literary tradition for T.S. Eliot?

J. M. SYNGE: RIDERS TO THE SEA

Long Questions

14 marks

1. In 'Riders to the Sea' the conflict is between the sea and humanity. Discuss.
2. Some critics say that there is no conflict in Riders to the Sea .What is your view in this matter?
3. 'Conflict is the essence of drama'. How far does the play "Riders to the Sea" meet this requirement?
4. How far has the tragic climax in the play, "Rider to the sea" been adequately prepared by hints and foreboding scattered throughout the play?
5. The tragedy in "Riders to the Sea" becomes more lurid by being presented through the medium of the old mother. Maurya with her mental obsessions and deep –rooted superstitious view of life. Discuss.
6. What is the final impression of the play, "Riders to the Sea" is the effect one of bleak despair or one of calm resignation?
7. Write a character sketch of Maurya of the play "Riders to the Sea".
8. Is Maurya considered a tragic hero? Why or why not?
9. Discuss the role of Nora in "Riders to the Sea".
10. What role does superstition play in the "Riders to the Sea"?
11. What is the role of the sea in the "Riders to the Sea"?
12. What does the title "Riders to the Sea" mean?

Short Questions

6 marks

1. What are the essential features of a One Act play? Do you find all these characteristics in Riders to the Sea?
2. Give a picture of the habits and beliefs of the people of Aran Islands. Show how these beliefs help in building up the tragic atmosphere in Riders to the Sea?
3. "Synge followed the ancients and not Shakespeare in making fate wholly responsible for the tragedy in Riders to the Sea". Discuss.
4. Show how the atmosphere of Riders to the Sea is filled with a sense of tragic doom and how this impression is strengthened by hints and fore boding of impending calamity.
5. Write a note on Synge's portrayal of the character of Maurya in Riders to the Sea.
6. Delineate the character of Maurya.
7. What impression have you formed of the character of Maurya?
8. What estimate have you formed of the character of Maurya from your reading of Riders to the Sea?
9. In what light does Synge depict the character of Maurya in Riders to the Sea?

10. "Riders to the Sea" is a regional play with a universal appeal. Do you agree with this view of the play?
11. What are the main ideas and themes of the "Riders to the Sea"?
12. Discuss the relationship of natural and super-natural elements in the "Riders to the Sea".

CHARLES LAMB: ESSAYS OF ELIA

Long Questions

14 marks

1. Write a note on the development of the English essay.
2. Consider briefly the origin and development of the essay in English and discuss the general characteristics of the form.
3. Consider the various definition of the essay which, in your opinion, fits the essays of Charles lamb?
4. Discuss the development of the essay from in the light of the definition given by different writers?
5. Write a comprehensive note on Lamb's genius as an essayist.
6. Do you agree with the view that the writing of the Charles Lamb do not form a part of the main stream of English literature? Give reasons for your answer.
7. Write a note on the contribution of Charles Lamb to English literature especially to the art of essay.
8. What is the secret of the abiding charm of Lamb's essay?
9. Estimate the importance of Lamb's contribution to the development of English prose and the perfection of the essay?

10. Assess Lamb's contribution to English literature.
11. What do you consider as the salient features of Lamb in essay?
12. What are the peculiar qualities of the essay form? Discuss.
13. The Essays of Elia are a new development of the essay form. Discuss.
14. Write a critical appraisal of the Essay of Elia.
15. Discuss the theme of the Essays of Elia.
16. What estimate have you formed of Lamb as a humorist?
17. Comment on the many-sided humor that is found in the essays of Lamb.
18. How far do you agree that humor is the most outstanding feature of Lamb's essays?
19. "The essays of Lamb are pervaded with a kindly and sympathetic humor with illustrations from the text". Discuss.
20. Write a note on the element of pathos in essays of Lamb.
21. "Below his quiet, his quaintness, his humor, there cries a genuinely tragic element". Elaborate with reference to Lamb's essays.
22. "Few writers have understood so fully as Lamb the intertwining of the ludicrous and pathetic in human nature". Explain and discuss with reference to Lamb's essays.
23. Write a note on the mingling of humor and pathos in Lamb's "The essays of Elia".

24. Write a note on the autobiographical element in Lamb's essays.
25. "The perfect egoist is the perfect essayist". Substantiate from Lamb's essays.
26. It has been said that from his essays we can construct Lamb's outer as well as his inner life. Comment on this.
27. Does Lamb's egotism enhance or detract from his essays?
28. To what extent does Lamb reveal himself in his essays?
29. "Some of his essays are merely autobiography transformed by the most delicate touch of fancy and sentiment". Discuss.
30. Write a note on Lamb's evocation of memories in the Essays of Elia.
31. Lamb's essays are "excursion in to the past". Discuss with illustrations.
32. What evidence of wisdom do you find in Lamb's essays?
33. What aspects of Lamb's essays make him a romantic prose writer?
34. What picture do you get of Lamb's personality traits from his essays?
35. To what extent does Lamb reveal himself in essays?

EMILY BRONTE: WUTHERING HEIGHTS

Long Questions

14 marks

1. “Heathcliff catastrophically succeeds to a demon”:- G.K. Chesterton.
Discuss Heathcliff’s character in the light of this comment.
2. Comment on Charlotte Bronte’s view that Heathcliff follows an arrow-straight course to damnation.
3. Attempt a defense of the conduct and character of Heathcliff in Wuthering Heights.
4. Discuss the view that Heathcliff is redeemed by his love for Catherine.
5. “Heathcliff is the centre of the novel. Things happen because of some action of his. Discuss.
6. Show that Heathcliff dominates the action of the novel, Wuthering Heights.
7. Discuss the appropriateness of the title Wuthering Heights.
8. Discuss some of the means used by Emily Bronte to secure structural unity.
9. Write a note on the connection between theme and structure in Wuthering Heights.
10. Examine Wuthering Heights from the structural point of view.

11. Write a note on the narrative technique and the use of time in *Wuthering Heights*.
12. Compare and contrast Lockwood and Nelly Dean as narrators.
13. What is the function of Lockwood in the novel as a character and as a narrator?
14. Contrast the principles of 'storm' and 'calm' in *Wuthering Heights*.
15. Write a critical note on the use of supernatural elements and suggestions in *Wuthering Heights*.
16. Write a note on the atmosphere of cruelty and suffering in *Wuthering Heights*.
17. Discuss the various elements of sadism and violence in *Wuthering Heights*.
18. Critically analyze the art of fiction in *Wuthering Heights*.
19. Discuss some of the characteristic features of *Wuthering Heights* as a novel.
20. Attempt a critical appreciation of the novel *Wuthering Heights*.
21. Write a note on the validity of Charlotte Brontë's preface to the 1850 edition of *Wuthering Heights*.
22. Examine *Wuthering Heights* from the structural point of view.
23. "The structure of *Wuthering Heights* is precisely the structure which gives the novel its coherence". Comment on the view.

24. What is Nelly Dean's role in *Wuthering Heights*? Is she an observer-narrator or an agent who influence action?
25. Point out the symbolic significance, of the two houses-the heights and the Grange in *Wuthering Heights*.
26. Attempt a defense of the conduct and character of Heathcliff in *Wuthering Heights*.
27. Discuss the view that Heathcliff is redeemed by his love for Catherine.
28. Charlotte Bronte held the view that there 'broods a horror of great darkness' over *Wuthering Heights*. Do you agree?
29. "In *Wuthering Heights* Emily Bronte makes use of the form of the novel to express a romantic sensibility". Discuss.
30. "*Wuthering Heights* produces on the reader the same impress of powerful passion as is produced by Byron's poetry". Discuss.

MACBETH: SHAKESPEARE

Long Questions

14 marks

1. “Fair is foul and four is fair.”

Who says these words? How are these words related to the theme of the play?

Do they anticipate any contact with the main character of the play?

2. “What bloody man is that?”

Who makes this question? What does he mean by the word bloody? How many times the word ‘blood’ occurs in the play? Why is it a persistent Image in the drama?

3. In what terms Macbeth is glorified as a hero?

4. Who addresses the witches first, but to whom the witches speak? How does Banquo take the words of the witches? Is he serious or light-hearted?

5. Sketch the character of Macbeth.

6. Describe the first meeting of Macbeth with the witches.

7. What role do the witches play in Macbeth?

8. Macbeth is more guided by his wife and less by his ambition- Do you support this statement? Give reasons.

9. Describe in detail Macbeth's experience when he goes to kill Duncan.
10. Why did Macbeth murder Banquo? How was Banquo murdered?
11. What role did Lady Macbeth play in the murder of Duncan?
12. Narrate the fight between Macbeth and Macduff.
13. Narrate the banquet scene in Macbeth.
14. How did the witches deceive Macbeth through apparitions they conjured in their second meeting with him?
15. Are the witches in Macbeth real?
16. Did Macbeth always want to be king?
17. Why does Macbeth think the Witches want to help him?
18. Does Lady Macbeth commit suicide?
19. How did Birnam Wood move and why was Macduff able to kill Macbeth?
20. What convinces Macbeth that the Witches' prophecy is true?
21. Why does Banquo not trust the Witches?

CANTERBURY TALES: GEOFFERY CHAUCER

Long Questions

14 marks

1. How does Chaucer use irony and satire in the characterization of the Monk and Friar in the General Prologue to The...
2. What is the moral the Pardoner and Chaucer each want us to draw from "The Pardoner's Tale"?
3. In The Canterbury Tales, why is it ironic that the Pardoner preaches a story with this particular moral?
4. What is the main theme of "The Nun's Priest's Tale" in The Canterbury Tales? Discuss it with examples from the text.
5. How does the Pardoner personify Death? What oath did the three men swear?
6. In what month is the group making its pilgrimage in The Canterbury Tales?
7. Did Chaucer approve or disapprove of the Miller based on his description?
8. What qualities do the rioters represent in "The Pardoner's Tale" from The Canterbury Tales?
9. Who is the best character in The Canterbury Tales?

10. What is the Wife of Bath's occupation?

11. What is Chaucer's message in the prologue to *The Canterbury Tales*?

12. What are some physical characteristics of The Pardoner from *The Canterbury Tales*?

13. Explain the irony between the Prioress' portrayal in the General Prologue and the story she chooses to tell in *The Canterbury Tales*.

14. What is important about the dyer in *The Canterbury Tales*?

What feelings does the Chaucer Pilgrim actually express about the Pardoner in "The General Prologue" in Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*?

15. What are the similarities and differences of The Knight's Tale and The Merchant's Tale love stories/love themes?

16. Please give a detailed character sketch of the Wife of Bath.

17. What does the Wife of Bath say she is an expert in?

18. In Chaucer's "General Prologue" of *The Canterbury Tales*, are Chaucer's characters stereotypes?

19. Why is the Knight a terrible storyteller in *The Canterbury Tales*? Give two examples of a "rule" he breaks.

20. What are some elements of realism in Chaucer's "Prologue" to *The Canterbury Tales*?

21. Why is there a prioress in *The Canterbury Tales*? What is the importance of this character in the story?

THE GUIDE: R.K. NARAYAN

Long Questions

14 marks

1. Is Raju a transformed man by the end of the novel?
2. Is Velan a mere fool or a major accessory to Raju's transformation?
3. What does Rosie's fate say about her as a character?
4. Is Narayan saying there are really divine/paranormal forces at work?
5. What roles do dharma and karma play in the text?
6. What is the a character sketch of Rosie in The Guide?
7. What literary techniques does R. K. Narayan use in the novel The Guide?
8. What picture of the contemporary society do you find in Narayan's The Guide?
9. Who is the best character from The Guide by R.K. Narayan?
10. How is one Raju one of the most complex characters of Narayan?
11. What is the concept of universality in the novel The Guide?
12. In "The Guide," was Rosie responsible for all the mishappenings upon Raju?
13. How does Narayan depict religious belief in The Guide?
14. What is Raju's relationship with his mother in The Guide, and how does it change?

15. Compare and contrast Rosie and Nalini in *The Guide*.

16. What is Raju's life like as a convict?

17. What are the Romantic characteristics of the novel *The Guide* by R. K. Narayan?

18. In *The Guide*, R. K. Narayan explores the changes in Indian society. Examine this concept.

THE FINAL SOLUTION: MAHESH DATTANI

Long Questions

14 marks

1. What is Mahesh Dattani message in Final Solutions?
2. What is the theme of the Final Solutions?
3. Who is Tasneem in Final Solutions?
4. Why is Javed not afraid of the police in final solution?
5. How does Final Solutions pose basic question son communalism?
6. Describe Final Solutions as a post-feminist analytical story.
7. Explore the women characters in the play.

Short Question

6 marks

1. Which character in the play maintains a diary and what is the significance of the diary?
2. Write a short note on the context the Final Solutions?
3. What is the role of Smita in the Final Solutions?
4. Sketch the character of Javed in the play.

LYRICAL BALLADS: WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

Long Questions

14 marks

LYRICAL BALLADS: WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

Long Questions

14 marks

1. What is Wordsworth's theory of poetry?
2. What is the main concept in "Preface to Lyrical Ballads" by William Wordsworth?
3. What is the subject matter of poetry according to Wordsworth?
4. What are the main features of Wordsworth's "Preface" to Lyrical Ballads?
5. What are the main features of Wordsworth's "Preface" to Lyrical Ballads?
6. Discuss Wordsworth's views on poetic diction in "Preface to Lyrical Ballads".
7. What does Wordsworth say about the difference between the language of prose and metrical composition?
8. What is poetry, according to Wordsworth in "Preface to Lyrical Ballads"?
9. Can preface to lyrical ballads be considered as a manifesto of romantic criticism?

10. Could you explain the significance of William Wordsworth's "Preface to Lyrical Ballads"?
11. Discuss Wordsworth's theory of poetic composition with reference to his "Preface" to Lyrical Ballads.
12. How does Wordsworth describe the language he claims to have selected for his poems?
13. In the preface to Lyrical Ballads, how does Wordsworth define happiness to the poet in contrast to the man of science?
14. Discuss the purpose of "Preface to Lyrical Ballads" by William Wordsworth.
15. What is Wordsworth's contribution as a critic of culture?
16. What, according to Wordsworth, is "the great spring of the activity of our minds" in "Preface to the Lyrical Ballads"?
17. Why does Wordsworth choose situations from "humble and rustic life" in his preface to Lyrical Ballads?
18. Discuss the connection between Wordsworth and Aristotle regarding poetry.

19. How does Wordsworth describe or define the ideal poet in his Preface to Lyrical Ballads?
20. Examine Wordsworth's theory of poetic diction.
21. What literary style did Wordsworth follow in his poems?
22. How does Wordsworth describe the language he claims to have selected for his poems?
23. What is the subject matter of poetry according to Wordsworth?
24. What is Wordsworth's definition of poetry?

HARD TIMES: CHARLES DICKENS

Long Questions

14 marks

1. What is the significance of Coke town in the novel Hard Times?
2. Discuss the theme of fact and fancy in Hard Times.
3. What's the significance of the title Hard Times?
4. What is the definition of "horse" in Hard Times?
5. Why are three main sections of the novel Hard Times by Charles Dickens entitled "Sowing," "Reaping," and "Garnering"?
6. What does "M'Choakumchild" mean?
7. Compare and contrast the characters of Louisa Gradgrind and Sissy Jupe in Hard Times.
8. Discuss the role of Sissy Jupe in Hard Times.
9. What is the conclusion of the novel Hard Times?
10. Consider Hard Times as a social satire.
11. What is the significance of the three books in Hard Times?

12. What is the moral of story Hard Times?
13. What is the main conflict in Hard Times?
14. Is Hard Times a realist novel?
15. In what ways is Hard Times a novel of social protest?
16. What do you consider the major moral lesson in Hard Times by Charles Dickens?
17. What is the relationship between Louisa and Tom in Hard Times?
18. Why is Sissy referred to as "girl number twenty?"
19. Compare the characters of Gradgrind and Bounderby in Hard Times by Charles Dickens.
20. How is education presented in Hard Times?
21. In Hard Times, what is the significance of the book structure?
22. Describe the failure of the philosophy of Thomas Gradgrind?
23. Did you find the ending of Hard Times to be tragic?
24. Discuss the father and daughter relationships in Hard Times.

25. What is the main theme of Hard Times?
26. What is the moral of Hard Times?
27. What does Dickens criticize in Hard Times?
28. What is the main conflict in Hard Times?
29. How different symbols are used in Hard Times?
30. What do the characters in Hard Times represent?
31. What analogy is drawn between Coketown and the Gradgrindian philosophy?
32. What are Mrs. Sparsit's reasons for not calling Louisa Mrs. Bounderby?
33. Explain what Dickens means by Bounderby's "absolute power"?
34. What is Mrs. Sparsit's role in the novel?
35. What motivated Louisa's visit to Stephen? What were the results of this visit?
36. Of what significance was the "star shining" to Stephen? What does this represent symbolically?
37. What, according to Tom, was Louisa's method of escape?
38. Why is it significant for the novel to open in the classroom of facts and conclude in the circus of fancy?
39. What hope does Dickens give concerning Gradgrind?
40. How does Bounderby's concept of smoke differ from that of the Hands?

41. What is the motif behind Mrs. Sparsit's spying on James Harthouse and Louisa Bounderby?
42. How did Gradgrind react when he realized that his educational philosophy was a failure?
43. Louisa was descending the allegorical staircase of shame. Were there others descending with her? Support your answer.
44. Critics have called *Hard Times* an allegory. Would you agree with this statement? Support your answer.
45. Characterize Mrs. Gradgrind; in what ways does she show that, being in capable of comprehending her husband's philosophy, she has withdrawn from the world?

MRS. DALLOWAY: VIRGINIA WOOLF

Long Questions

14 marks

1. What is an interior monologue? Describe, using a specific character in *Mrs. Dalloway* and show how the monologue functions as a narrative and expository device.
2. While Virginia Woolf was writing this novel, she referred to it as *The Hours*. She changed the title, but what evidence is there of her concern with time?
3. The charge has been frequently made that "nothing happens" in Virginia Woolf's novels. How would you answer this?
4. What facets of the English social system does Virginia Woolf criticize?
5. Why does Peter Walsh object to Hugh Whitbread?
6. Describe Miss Kilman in terms of her religious feelings.
7. How, and through what characters, does Virginia Woolf weave the theme of possessiveness and possessive love?
8. In what way are Peter Walsh and Sally Seton similar? Peter and Clarissa?

9. Describe instances in which a "sane" character thinks or utters a phrase that is amplified in Septimus Smith's madness.
10. From the brief scene Virginia Woolf presents, describe Clarissa and Richard's marriage.
11. What are Clarissa Dalloway's values?
12. Discuss Virginia Woolf's narrative technique in the novel Mrs. Dalloway.
13. What is the significance of the title Mrs. Dalloway?
14. What is the significance of Clarissa's party in Mrs. Dalloway?
15. What is the relationship between Septimus and Clarissa in Mrs. Dalloway?
16. What do the flowers in Mrs. Dalloway represent?
17. How does Septimus' death affect Clarissa and Lucrezia in "Mrs. Dalloway"?
18. What is the importance of war in Mrs. Dalloway?
19. How are the themes of repression and oppression are presented in Mrs. Dalloway?

20. What is the significance of Peter Walsh to Mrs. Dalloway in Virginia Woolf's Mrs. Dalloway?
21. Why did Septimus Warren Smith commit suicide?
22. What is an interior monologue? Describe using a specific character in Mrs. Dalloway and show how the monologue functions as a narrative and expository device.
23. Why does Peter Walsh object to Hugh Whitbread?
24. Describe Ms. Kilman in terms of her religious feelings?
25. How, and through what characters, does Virginia Woolf weave the theme of possessiveness and possessive love?
26. What facets of the English social system does Virginia Woolf criticize?
27. In what way are Peter Walsh and Sally Saton similar?
28. Describe instances in which a "sane" character thinks or utters a phrase that is amplified in Septimus Smith's madness?
29. What are Clarissa Dalloway's values?
30. Describe Clarissa and Richard's marriage scene.

A FAREWELL TO ARMS: ERNEST HEMINGWAY

Long Questions

14 marks

1. How effective are the opening chapters of *A Farewell to Arms*? What makes them effective/ineffective?
2. Write an essay discussing Hemingway's use of lowlands and mountains as symbols.
3. Compare and contrast the novel's most significant supporting characters: Rinaldi and the priest.
4. Are Henry's reasons for deserting the Italian army convincing? Why or why not?
5. Compare the novel's two idyllic sections: the summer spent in Milan and the winter in Switzerland.
6. Compare and contrast Italy and Switzerland in general, as they appear in this novel.
7. Write an essay in which you disagree with the truism that the essential Hemingway style is typified by short, declarative sentence.

8. Ernest Hemingway has been accused of sexism. Is Catherine Barkley a believable, three-dimensional character? What about the other female characters in *A Farewell to Arms*?
9. Is Hemingway's treatment of the love between Henry and Catherine too much or not enough?
10. Write an essay about the common man in *A Farewell to Arms*.
11. What is the main theme of *A Farewell To Arms*?
12. What is the relationship between love and pain in *A Farewell to Arms*?
13. Which characters die in *A Farewell To Arms*, and how do they die?
14. Analyze the character "the priest" in the novel *A Farewell to Arms*.
15. What is the language and style of writing used in *A Farewell to Arms*?
16. What is the conflict in *A Farewell to Arms* by Ernest Hemingway?
17. How does Hemingway use the "Iceberg Theory" in *A Farewell to Arms*?
18. What is the authorial purpose in *A Farewell to Arms*?

19. Why is Frederic Henry in the Italian Army in the novel *A Farewell to Arms* by Hemingway?
20. In *A Farewell to Arms*, what are some existential quotations or scenes?
21. Define symbolism in *A Farewell to Arms*.
22. How does Ernest Hemingway discuss the horrors of war in his novel *A Farewell to Arms*?
23. What sets the tone in *A Farewell To Arms*?
24. What is the symbolism of the ants that are consumed by fire as Henry turns the burning log?
25. How does the first chapter of *A Farewell to Arms* set a tone and mood which anticipate subsequent events?
26. Why does the narrator move the reader through a change of seasons from late summer to autumn and on to winter?
27. What are the major images in the first Chapter and what is the effect of the understatement in the final sentence?
28. What perspective regarding love does the priest from Abruzzi provide, and why do officers bait him during meals?
29. Why are the Italian soldiers disillusioned with the war?

CHAIRS: EUGENE IONESCO

Long Questions

14 marks

1. Are the invisible guests are real or not? Does it matter?
2. What is the effect of the Orator being played by a real actor?
3. What do you think the Old Man's message was? Did he really even have one?
4. What do you think the play is saying about the nature of time?
5. What is the meaning of life? (Ha, good luck!)
6. How is the Orator's inability to deliver the important message of the Old Man so that invisible crowd understands it a universal symbol capable of applying to literally every member an audience?
7. How can the double suicide by the old couple be interpreted as a reply by the playwright to criticism of his previous work?
8. How can the addition of chairs to an empty stage actually serve to deepen the symbolism of the emptiness of the lives of the Old Man and Old Woman?
9. What shape is the stage of the chairs?
10. What is the theme of the chair?

11. How can the double suicide by the old couple be interpreted as a reply by the playwright to criticism of his previous work?
12. How can the addition of chairs to an empty stage actually serve to deepen the symbolism of the emptiness of the lives of the old man and the old woman?
13. Why does the couple commit suicide in the play?
14. What is existential in the play, "The Chairs"?

KANTHAPURA: RAJA RAO

Long Questions

14 marks

1. How are women represented in *Kanthapura*?
2. How does Ratna change as the novel progresses?
3. Why do very few villagers find it easy to love Bhatta and Bade Khan, as Moorthy counsels them to?
4. Why is Achakka, the first-person narrator, so thinly drawn?
5. What kind of note does the novel end on?
6. What happens when villagers decide not pay the revenue?
7. What kind of money lending business goes on in the village?
8. *Kanthapura* is a novel of political and social awakening. Discuss.
9. What is the theme of *Kanthapura* by Raja Rao?
10. Assess the characterization of Moorthy in *Kanthapura*?
11. Can Raja Rao's *Kanthapura* be considered a post-Colonial novel?
12. Discuss major women characters in Raja Rao's *Kanthapura*.
13. Describe the character of Moorthy in *Kanthapura*.
14. Who are the characters in *Kanthapura* by Raja Rao?
15. What is Raja Rao's style in *Kanthapura*?

16. What is the summary of the novel Kanthapura?
17. What happens at the end of the novel Kanthapura?
18. What are the critical comments on the structure of the novel Kanthapura by Raja Rao?
19. Explain how the village of Kanthapura is a microcosm of the entrenched hierarchy in Indian society.
20. Write a detailed note on prose style of Raja Rao.
21. What are some quotes from Kanthapura by Raja Rao?
22. How are the themes in Kanthapura reflective of Gandhi's epic struggles?
23. Discuss subalternity in Raja Rao's Kanthapura.
24. What key role does the novel Kanthapura play in the theories of reading postcolonial literature?
25. What kind of a new tax is introduced in Kathaputali, and why?
26. Discuss how there is historical as well as artistic value to Kanthapura.
27. How deep and wide is the impact of Gandhi's personality and his thought on the theme of Kanthapura?

28. Highlight chief characteristics of postcolonial writings as they relate to Kanthapura by Raja Rao.
29. Write the details--Why is Kanthapura called a path breaking novel?
30. Why is the description of certain topics incomplete?

FIVE POINT SOMEONE: CHETAN BHAGAT

Long Questions

14 Marks

1. What is the main theme in Five Point Someone?
2. What was his first gift to Neha?
3. What ice cream did Hari and Neha always have at the parlor?
4. What is the five point message?
5. Discuss Five Point Someone as a Campus Novel.
6. What is Five Point Someone about?
7. Discuss the writing style of the author.
8. Discuss the plot of the story.
9. Chasing of dreams is important not Money. Discuss it through the story.
10. Discuss career conflicts and challenges in Chetan Bhagat's Five Point Someone.

THE OUTSIDER: ALBERT CAMUS

THE OUTSIDER: ALBERT CAMUS

Long Questions

14 Marks

1. What are the major themes of *The Stranger* by Albert Camus?
2. What is Camus's message in *The Stranger*?
3. Why did Meursault kill the Arab?
4. What is the symbolic meaning of Salamano's dog in the novel?
5. What does the sun symbolize in *The Stranger*?
6. What is the setting of *The Stranger* by Albert Camus?
7. What is an example of alienation in *The Stranger* by Albert Camus?
8. What is the significance of the title "*The Stranger*"?
9. What does Meursault realize at the end of *The Stranger*?
10. In *The Stranger*, is Meursault a threat to society?
11. What are some examples of internal and external conflicts in *The Stranger*?
12. In the book, *The Stranger*, what is Meursault's job?

13. What were Meursault's feelings towards his mother when she was alive?
14. What is symbolic of Thomas Perez in *The Stranger*? Why include him in the novel?
15. Is Meursault guilty?
16. Why is the book called *The Stranger*?
17. In "*The Stranger*," what do we learn of Meursault's work, his attitude towards it and towards promotion?
18. What is the significance of the setting in *The Outsider*, a.k.a. *The Stranger*?
19. Explain how Camus' use of language and "speech" in *The Stranger* contributes the meaning of the work.
20. What words would best describe the main character's tone in *The Stranger* by Albert Camus?
21. What is the symbolic nature of the trip to the sea in "*The Stranger*"?
22. How does Meursault's reaction to the sun affect his mood and behavior in Camus's *The Stranger*?

23. How does Camus use foreshadowing as a technique in the novel *The Stranger*?

24. In Albert Camus's *The Stranger*, what is Meursault actually on trial for, his actions or his eccentric character?

25. In *The Stranger*, how does death symbolize both modernism and absurdism?

26. What makes Meursault happy?

27. Why is Meursault friends with Raymond?

28. What genre is *The Stranger*?

29. Why do Arabs not have names in *The Stranger*?

30. What does the reference "a soldier" tell you about the time period in *The Stranger*?

31. Why doesn't Meursault believe in God in *The Stranger*?

A BEND IN THE RIVER: V. S. NAIPAUL

Long Questions

14 Marks

1. Is A Bend in the River written by VS Naipaul?
 2. Analyze the main theme of the novel.
 3. What does Salim mean by the phrase the world is what it is in bend in the river?
 4. Who is the hero of bend in the river?
 5. How is post colonialism represented in VS Naipaul's novel A Bend in the River?
 6. How is post-colonialism represented in V.S. Naipaul's novel A Bend in the River?
 7. Is there a pessimistic or dark vision in Naipaul's "A Bend in the River"?
 8. Who is the Big Man and the President in A Bend in The River? Are they the same person? What are their roles?
 9. How can you see superiority and inferiority as represented in the novel A Bend in the River? (Indicate your answer with points of view for the characters related to the idea in the novel.
 10. Discuss the summary of A Bend in the River.
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