

# English Literature

## Paper-I

**Time Allowed: Three Hours**

**Maximum Marks: 300**

- Note:* 1. The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.
2. Candidate should answer questions No. 1 and 5 which are compulsory and any *three* of the remaining questions, selecting at least *one* from each section.

### SECTION – A

1. Write short notes on any **three** of the following: 20×3=60
- (i) Explain the following lines:  
“As flies to wanton boys are  
We to the gods.  
They kill us for their sport”.
- (ii) Explain the following lines:  
“Of Man’s first disobedience, and the fruit  
Of that forbidden tree whose mortal taste  
Brought death into the world, and all our woe,  
With loss of Eden”.
- (iii) Explain the following lines:  
“Say what strange Motive, Goddess cou’d compel  
A well- bred Lord t’assault a Gentle Belle?  
Oh say what stranger Cause, yet Unexplored,  
Cou’d make a gentle belle reject a Lord”.
- (iv) Why is the poet not afraid of Death in “Death, be not proud”?

(v) Explain the lines:

“There was a time when meadow, grove, and stream,  
The earth and every common sight  
To me did seem  
Apparalled in celestial light,  
The glory and the freshness of a dream.”

2. Write a detailed note on the role and significance of women characters in *King Lear*. 60
3. Discuss John Donne as a metaphysical poet. 60
4. Trace the elements of romanticism in poetry of Wordsworth. 60

### SECTION – B

5. (a) Read the following passage and answer the questions:

I didn't block my ears. I strained to hear the Royce voice in the night. It made me more unsettled than scared. I quickly recognized the pattern: his late and jovial homecomings, her silence, his reaction, the stray word that became an argument, the bitter fight and the second, more savage, silence—the pause after some ultimate insult to his dignity. In this vacuum, while I tried to listen, my breaths became shallow sips of air. There ! The sip, the running feet, the slamming bedroom door.

She looked both Dorothy and Dot to me—a Dorothy indoors, outdoors very much a Dot. Dorothy was the woman, the wife, the suburban mother, the Mrs. Dunlop at the business functions. At breakfast, the silent one at the stove. Two thousand miles from home. Cooking but not eating.

In Dorothy mood she murmured to a friend on the telephone: ‘... yet he's never let a night go past when he has not put his arm around me when we go to sleep.’ Overhearing this surprised me, considering the row the night before, but it made me feel better to hear it.

I don't know why she favoured Dorothy to Dot. Dorothy was the unsettled woman: Dot was the girl. Dot ran everywhere. (Sprinting along the shore, she could easily catch me. And I was thrilled to be in her arms once again). Dot made many friends; West Australians were fond of her and Dot loved Perth. Dot swam. Dot earthwheeled on the beach and did handstands. Dot had decided not to fear the sun; she was brown year-round. In the sandy landscape she was a busy little speck.

- (i) Who is the narrator and what is he describing?
- (ii) What kind of person is Royce?
- (iii) What is meant by 'late and jovial' homecoming?
- (iv) What impression do you form of Royce-Dorothy relationship?
- (v) What kind of character is Dot? How is she different from Dorothy?

6×5=30

- (b) Read the following poem and answer the questions given at the end:

I found a dimpled spider, fat and white,  
On a white heal-all, holding up a moth.  
Like a white piece of rigid satin cloth  
Assorted characters of death and blight  
Mixed ready to begin the morning right.  
Like the ingredients of a witches' broth.  
And dead wings carried like a paper kite.  
What had that flower to do with being white,  
The wayside blue and innocent heal-all?  
What brought the kindred spider to that height  
Then steered the white moth thither in the night?  
What but design of darkness to appall? –  
If design govern in a thing so small.

- (i) Comment on the type and structure of the poem.
- (ii) Trace two examples of simile used in the poem.
- (iii) What is the attitude of the poet?

- (iv) What is the 'design'? Who is designer?
- (v) Does the poem echo witches' scenes in *Macbeth*? What is the significance of reference to witches in the poem?

6×5=30

6. Write a detailed note on the historical context of *Gulliver's Travels*. 60
7. Discuss the importance of social class in *Pride and Prejudice*. How does it impact the relationship between Elizabeth and Darcy? 60
8. The title of *Hard Times* is very significant. Discuss. 60