

2019

ENGLISH

( Major )

Paper : 5.5

( Life Writing )

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions*

1. Answer any *three* of the following questions :

10×3=30

- (a) "Samuel Johnson's *Life of Pope* is a balanced analysis of the character of the poet." Do you agree? Substantiate your argument with textual evidence.
- (b) How does Trollope chart his development as a novelist in the Sixth Chapter of his Autobiography, especially with reference to *Barchester Towers*? Illustrate your answer with relevant examples from the text.
- (c) Critically examine R. K. Narayan's use of the form of the autobiography in his memoirs, *My Days*.



- (d) What does Franz Kafka's *Letter to My Father* reveal about his relations with his father and the nature of Kafka's mind?
- (e) What impression do you form of Dickinson's personality from her letters?
- (f) How does Tagore foreground his love of India and strong patriotic fervour in the two letters prescribed for you?
- (g) Provide your views on the difficulties faced by Ashutosh Mukherjee as an educationist in the context of his letter to Lord Lytton.

2. Answer any *three* of the following questions :

5×3=15

- (a) Elaborate on R. K. Narayan's childhood as depicted in his *My Days*.
- (b) Discuss briefly Ashutosh Mukherjee's advocacy of the autonomy of a university.
- (c) Critically comment on Kafka's handling of the epistolary form from your reading of the prescribed text.
- (d) "Of his domestic character frugality was a part eminently remarkable." (*Life of Pope*) Comment.

- (e) Analyze Tagore's dilemma over Christ's words 'Love thine enemies' as expressed in his letter to Mahatma Gandhi.
- (f) Elaborate on the idea expressed in *The Three Clerks*.

3. Answer the following questions : 2×4=8

- (a) Write briefly about R. K. Narayan's description of his school in *My Days*.
- (b) Mamie is the youngest daughter of the Bowles family. Name the other two children of Bowles.
- (c) What are Johnson's views on Pope's *Essay on Criticism*?
- (d) Briefly comment on Kafka's relationship with Ottla from your reading of Kafka's *Letter to My Father*.

4. Answer the following as directed : 1×7=7

- (a) Who wrote *Ode on Solitude*?
- (b) When was R. K. Narayan's *My Days* published?
- (c) What is Ashutosh Mukherjee's 'Alma Mater'?



(d) Who was the Viceroy to whom Tagore wrote his letter renouncing Knighthood?

(e) Carlo is the name of Emily Dickinson's \_\_\_\_.

( Fill in the blank )

(f) Who was Mrs. Samuel Bowles?

(g) What is Franzensbad as mentioned in Kafka's *Letter to My Father* ?

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