

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 2014

M.A. ENGLISH

[Field of Study Code : ENGM (215)]

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Question No. 1 is compulsory carrying 40 marks.
Answer **two** other questions carrying 30 marks each.

1. Write a critical assessment of the following poem by Seamus Heaney commenting on its title, theme, diction, imagery, rhythm and rhyme :

Requiem for the Croppies

The pockets of our greatcoats full of barley—
No kitchens on the run, no striking camp—
We moved quick and sudden in our own country.
The priest lay behind ditches with the tramp.
A people, hardly marching—on the hike—
We found new tactics happening each day :
We'd cut through reins and rider with the pike
And stampede cattle into infantry,
Then retreat through hedges where cavalry must be thrown.
Until, on Vinegar Hill, the fatal conclave.
Terraced thousands died, shaking scythes at cannon.
The hillside blushed, soaked in our broken wave.
They buried us without shroud or coffin
And in August the barley grew up out of the grave.

2. Critically examine any *one* of the following texts in order to show how they represent life, literature and thought of their times :

- (a) *Paradise Lost*
- (b) *Hard Times*
- (c) *Moby-Dick*
- (d) *The Waste Land*
- (e) *Voss*
- (f) *Midnight's Children*

3. Analyze a contemporary play or movie in the light of concepts derived from classical Indian or Greek aesthetics.
4. 'Shakespeare is not an author, but a powerful cultural token', a site where meaning is established and where it must be contested. Discuss.
5. Do post-Colonial literatures destabilize canonical English literature or help to reestablish it? Refer to specific texts in your answer.
6. Some linguists have posited the idea of dying languages and killer languages. Do you think that, in the context of India, English is a killer language?
7. With reference to specific texts, discuss how *one* of the following travels across nations or continents :
 - (a) Modernism
 - (b) Novel
 - (c) 'Theory'
 - (d) Popular culture

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