



# JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY

MASTER OF ARTS ADMISSION TEST - 2010

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Time – 2 hours

Full Marks – 100

1. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow:

Tinder in us will kindle till the cinder  
Flash and convert to ash  
Our fattened flesh.  
Unlearn your happiness, time is not tender.

Optimist, optimist, your gimcrack shop,  
Flailed by the poundless angels, starts to fail.  
Your flesh turns pale,  
The wagging tail inside your head will stop.

Tell me, why are you crying? I feel quite well.  
Lately I found a fact about our fate,  
Congratulate  
Yourself that only here do we have hell.

- i) Explain the image in the first three lines. 5
- ii) What do you understand by
- a) the poundless angels 5
- b) The wagging tail inside your head 5
- iii) How does the line beginning 'Tell me...' fit in with the rest of the poem? 10

2. Write short notes on any *five* of the following, taking *at least two* from each group:

5 x 5 = 25

a) *Volpone*, *Sons and Lovers*, Euripides, *Mother Courage*, Petrarch, *Hard Times*, Aphra Behn, Dr Johnson, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, *The God of Small Things*

b) Premchand, *The Plague*, *Shrikanta*, *Bicycle Thieves*, the Sistine Chapel, Voltaire, *A Hard Day's Night*, Martin Luther King, Kabir, *Chaturanga*

3. Write an essay on one of the following critical observations:

50

- a) A poem is like a picture.
- b) We take pleasure in artistic imitation even of ugly or hateful objects.
- c) A poem need not be written in verse.
- d) Poetry is not a turning loose of emotion but an escape from emotion.
- e) The computer will not destroy the book but extend the terms of the latter's being.