Jadavpur University Master of Arts Admission Test -2011

Full Marks: 100 Time: 2 hours

1. Critically analyse the poem below. (40 marks)

I wake and feel the fell of dark, not day.

What hours, O what black hours we have spent
This night! what sights you, heart, saw; ways you went!
And more must, in yet longer light's delay.

With witness I speak this. But where I say
Hours I mean years, mean life. And my lament
Is cries countless, cries like dead letters sent
To dearest him that lives alas! away.

I am gall, I am heartburn. God's most deep decree
Bitter would have me taste: my taste was me;
Bones built in me, flesh filled, blood brimmed the curse.
Selfyeast of spirit a dull dough sours. I see
The lost are like this, and their scourge to be
As I am mine, their sweating selves; but worse.

- 2. Answer any two of the following questions. $(2 \times 20 = 40 \text{ marks})$
 - (a) 'Shakespearean drama presents us with a scene of conflict, whether external or internal, and it is the conflict itself; not its resolution, that holds our attention.' Comment with reference to any one Shakespearean play you have read.

(b) 'The Romantic imagination is predominantly visual, insistently evoking landscapes of the mind.' Would you agree? Substantiate your answer with reference to any two Romantic poets.

- (c) 'It is the true voice of feeling, the language of emotion, rather than the abstraction called the Imagination, that moves us most directly in Romantic poetry.' Comment with reference to the works of any two Romantic poets.
- (d) 'Modernist poetry is a discourse of images.' Comment with reference to specific modernist poems.
- (e) 'The realism of nineteenth century fiction requires that characters be embedded in material contexts and situations, yet the characters are frequently shown to be struggling against the domination of the material world.' Comment with reference to any *one* nineteenth century novel.
- (f) 'Twentieth century drama, even more than its predecessors, needs to be analysed in a performance context.' Comment with reference to any one representative play.
- (g) 'Postcolonial literature is not necessarily a literature of protest; it is a literature haunted by the ghosts of the past.' Comment with illustrative examples.

3. Write short notes on any four (20 marks)

Antigone, Aeneid, Sakuntala, The Canterbury Tales, Dr Faustus, Don Quixote, Samson Agonistes, MacFlecknoe, Mansfield Park, Hyperion, Jane Eyre, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Flowers of Evil, Durgeshnandini, Jude the Obscure, Moby Dick, The Hound of the Baskervilles, Mrs Dalloway, The Hollow Men, The Outsider, Ghare Baire, Kim, Malgudi Days, A Streetcar Named Desire, Andha Yug, To Kill A Mockingbird, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?, Samskara, The Left Hand of Darkness, Evam Indrajit, Khoabnama