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3 (Sem - 5/CBCS) ENG HC 1

2025

ENGLISH

(Honours Core)

Paper : ENG - HC - 5016

(British Literature : The 20th Century)

Full Marks : 80

Time : Three hours

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

1. Answer the following questions : $1 \times 10 = 10$

(a) Fill in the blanks :

"He disappeared in the dead of _____:
The brooks were _____, the airports
almost deserted,"
- Auden

(b) "I should be glad for another death."
What does the speaker want to mean
here?

(c) What does the poet recite in the church
in the poem, 'Church Going'?

(d) Who is the speaker in the poem,
'Standing Female Nude' by Carol Ann
Duffy?

- (e) What does the poet mean by the line, "That is no country for old men" ?
 - (f) From where is the epigraph of 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock' taken ?
 - (g) In which month does the novel, 'Mrs. Dalloway' take place ?
 - (h) Name the male character who proposes marriage to Clarissa and is refused.
 - (i) Where does Kurtz die ?
 - (j) What did Marlow find most intriguing about an old book left for him written by Towson ?
2. Answer the following questions : $2 \times 5 = 10$
- (a) How does Auden commemorate Yeats in his poem, 'In Memory of W. B. Yeats' ?
 - (b) What, according to Philip Larkin, is the purpose of going to church ?
 - (c) What does "women come and go / Talking of Michelangelo" mean in T. S. Eliot's 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock' ?
 - (d) Why does Marlow lie to Kurtz's fiancée about Kurtz's last words ?
 - (e) What role does Sally Seton play in Clarissa's life ?

3. (a) Explain with reference to the context :
(any two) 5×2=10
- (i) O sages standing in God's holy fire
 As in the gold mosaic of a wall,
 Come from the holy fire, perne in a gyre,
 And be the singing-masters of my soul.
 - (ii) A serious house on serious earth it is
 In whose blent air all our
compulsions meet,
 Are recognized, and robed as destinies.
 - (iii) Six hours like this for
a few francs.
 Belly nipple arse in
the window light,
 he drains the colour
from me.
 - (iv) And indeed there will be time
 To wonder, 'Do I dare ?' and, 'Do I dare ?'
 Time to turn back and descend
the stair,
 With a bald spot in the middle of
my hair—
- (b) Write on **any two** of the following :
5×2=10
- (i) Marlow
 - (ii) Kurtz
 - (iii) Clarissa Dalloway
 - (iv) Septimus Warren Smith

4. Answer **any four** of the following questions :
10×4=40

- (a) Discuss the animal imagery in Ted Hughes' poem, 'Hawk Roosting'.
 - (b) Write a critical appreciation of either 'The Second Coming' or 'Casualty'.
 - (c) Give a critical estimate of the use of symbolism in W. B. Yeats' poem, 'Sailing to Byzantium'.
 - (d) Would you consider J. Alfred Prufrock as a representative of the human condition in the twentieth century? Discuss.
 - (e) Write an essay on the narrative technique of 'Mrs. Dalloway', showing how this technique differs from the traditional mode of story-telling.
 - (f) How does Virginia Woolf deploy female perspectives on the world to interrogate the world of men in 'Mrs. Dalloway'? Give a reasoned answer.
 - (g) "In 'Heart of Darkness', knowledge seems to be more important than action." Discuss.
 - (h) Would you agree that 'Heart of Darkness' is flawed in its privileging of the perspective of the coloniser over that of the colonised? Give a well-balanced response.
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