

2007

ENGLISH

FOURTH PAPER

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions

(New Syllabus)

(Non-Fictional Prose)

1. Answer any *five* questions from the following :

12x5=60

- (a) How important are Keats' letters for an understanding of his poetry? From Keats' letters prescribed in your syllabus, discuss some of the philosophical and critical concepts which inform his verse.
- (b) Critically assess Arnold's views on poetry as discussed in his *Preface to Poems* (1853).

- (c) Would you consider Addison's *The Spectator* essays to be representative of neo-classical prose writing? Illustrate your answer with suitable examples from the essays that you have read.
- (d) Would you subscribe to the view that Lamb's essays suggest an indifference to philosophy? Justify your stance from your reading of *My Relations*.
- (e) Consider Virginia Woolf's essay *How it strikes a contemporary* as a modernist text in terms of theme, structure and style.
- (f) Discuss Tagore's idea of Nation as expressed in his essay *Nationalism in the West*.
- (g) Explore the neo-classical principles that shape Johnson's assessment of Milton in *Life of Milton*.
- (h) How do the Victorian and Modern perspectives get articulated in Chapter I and Chapter II of Russell's *Autobiography*?

2. Critically explain any *three* of the following with reference to the context : 4x3=12

- (a) "It is from the notebooks of the present that the masterpieces of the future are made."

(3)

- (b) "I am certain of nothing but the holiness of the Heart's affections and the truth of the Imagination—what the imagination seizes as Beauty must be truth—"
- (c) "But in retrospect, as I have grown older, I have realised more and more the importance she had in moulding my outlook on life."
- (d) "They regarded the whole; we regard the parts. With them, the action predominated over the expression of it; with us, the expression predominates over the action!"
- (e) "I hate people who meet Time half way. I am for no compromise with that inevitable spoiler."

**3.** Write short notes on any *two* of the following : 4x2=8

- (a) Essay and letters as literary forms
- (b) Russel's remembrances of his parents in Chapter I of his *Autobiography*
- (c) Autobiography and Biography
- (d) Lamb's portrayal of his aunt in *My Relations*