



[This question paper contains 02 printed pages]

Himachal Pradesh Administrative Service Combined Competitive (Main /  
Written) Examination, 2020

ENGLISH LITERATURE (PAPER-II)

Time allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 100

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

1. There are EIGHT questions printed in English.
2. Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.
3. Question No.1 is compulsory. Out of the remaining SEVEN questions, FOUR are to be attempted choosing *at least ONE from each SECTION*.
4. All questions carry equal marks. The number of marks carried by a question / part is indicated against it.
5. Write answers in legible handwriting & in ENGLISH only. Each part of the question must be answered in sequence and in the same continuation.
6. Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in answer book must be clearly struck off.
7. Re-evaluation / Re-checking of answer book of the candidate is not allowed.

1. (a) Discuss the concepts: Postmodern Condition and the End of Grand Narratives (10)  
(b) Explain in detail Phallogocentric literature and Gynocriticism. (10)

SECTION-A

2. (a) How does the poetry of W.B. Yeats attempt “an escape from the sordid materialism” which he found in his age? Discuss with the help of illustrations from his poems. (10)  
(b) McCoy and Harlan wrote "For many readers in the 1920s, Prufrock seemed to epitomize the frustration and impotence of the modern individual. He seemed to represent thwarted desires and modern disillusionment." Comment on the statement and discuss the modernist traits in the poem *The love Song of J Alfred Prufrock* by TS Eliot. (10)
3. (a) Comment closely on ways in which the poetry of Robert Frost portrays the interaction between humans and nature. (10)

- (b) Discuss W. H. Auden's poem *September 1, 1939* by as political elegy. (10)
4. According to Martin Esslin, Tragicomedy is life enhancing because it tries to "remind the audience of the real need to face existence 'knowing the worst,' which ultimately is liberation, with courage and humility of not taking oneself or one's own pain too seriously, and to bear all life's mysteries and uncertainties. In the light of this statement, Discuss Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* as a blend of tragedy and comedy. (20)
5. Arthur Miller's play *Death of a Salesman* addresses loss of identity and a man's inability to accept change within himself and society. Elaborate By giving suitable references from the text. (20)

#### SECTION-B

6. (a) *A Passage to India* by E M Foster is a masterful portrait of a society in the grip of imperialism. Discuss with the help of appropriate illustrations from the text. (10)
- (b) With reference to James Joyce' *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, Comment upon the theme of the development of individual consciousness. (10)
7. Discuss Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* as a historical romance and fiction. (20)
8. *The Guide* by RK Narayan is the transformation of the protagonist Raju from his role as a tour guide to that of a spiritual guide. Elaborate the statement by giving suitable references from the novel. (20)

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