

MODEL QUESTIONS
M. A. Entrance Test(Department of English)
Marks:100
Time :Two hours(02 hours)

1. Critically appreciate the following poem and add a suitable title to it: 20

If you don't know the kind of person I am
and I don't know the kind of person you are
a pattern that others made may prevail in the world
and following the wrong god home we may miss our star.

For there is many a small betrayal in the mind,
a shrug that lets the fragile sequence break
sending with shouts the horrible errors of childhood
storming out to play through the broken dike.

And as elephants parade holding each elephant's tail,
but if one wanders the circus won't find the park,
I call it cruel and maybe the root of all cruelty
to know what occurs but not recognize the fact.

And so I appeal to a voice, to something shadowy,
a remote important region in all who talk:
though we could fool each other, we should consider—
lest the parade of our mutual life get lost in the dark.

For it is important that awake people be awake,
or a breaking line may discourage them back to sleep;
the signals we give — yes or no, or maybe —
should be clear: the darkness around us is deep.

2. Attempt a critical estimate of Elizabethan and Jacobean revenge tragedy citing example of plays written during the period. 20

Or

Write a comprehensive note on the Restoration comedy reference to the works of any two playwrights.

Or

“In Absurd drama, everything appears to make sense but paradoxically beyond reason.” Comment on the statement with instances from the texts you are familiar with.

3. Attempt a description of the impact of early 20th century critics on English literary criticism. Refer to at least one major critic in your answer. 20

Or

Critically examine how classical literary critics like Aristotle’s and Horace’s opinion on literary text and its subject matter shaped the growth of English literary criticism.

4. “ In the courtly love tradition of Elizabethan sonnet cycles the figure of ‘ beloved’ is usually ‘silent’ and ‘passive’”. Critically examine the above statement with reference to the Elizabethan sonnets suitable in this regard. 20

Or

How did the Romantic poets deploy myths in their creative act? Examine critically with Illustrations.

Or

How are the modern literary trends reflected in the poetic themes and techniques of the poetry of the 20th century? Answer from your reading of any two modern poets.

5. Comment on the significance of experimental and unconventional narrative techniques in modernist fiction with specific reference to the novels that you have read. 20

Or

“The novel was in a large measure the product of the middle class, appealing to middle class ideals and sensibilities, a patterning of imagined events set against a clearly realized social background and taking its view of what was significant in human behavior from agreed public attitudes”(David Daiches). How did the rise of the middle class and rise of trade and commerce lead to the growth and development of the novel in the eighteenth century? Discuss critically.

Or

“The novel is a sign of our freedom. In the modern world, the only rules are binding are those which we invent for ourselves. Politically speaking, this is known as democracy. We are set free from being mere functions of the grammar of God. It is we who give form and meaning to reality, and the novel is a model of this creative art” (Terry Eagleton). How did the novelists of the nineteenth century like Mary Shelley and Jane Austen explore this philosophy of freedom in their novels? Illustrate your answer with reference to the novels you have read.