

SECOND SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, JUNE 2015

(CUCSS)

English

EN 2C 03—TWENTIETH CENTURY LITERATURE UPTO WORLD WAR II

(2012 Admissions)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 36 Weightage

I. Answer *all* questions in a word, phrase or sentence :

- 1 From where does Eliot borrow the title "The Fire Sermon" in *The Waste Land* ?
- 2 Where does most of the action of *Heart of Darkness* take place ?
- 3 Who are the joint rulers of Egypt in *Caesar and Cleopatra* ?
- 4 Where does the action of *The Playboy of the Western World* take place ?

(4 × ½ = 2 weightage)

- 5 What scene in *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* leads to Stephen's epiphany ?
- 6 What does Hopkins refer to as "morning's minion" ?
- 7 Who is the mother of Achilles ?
- 8 Who is the narrator of *The Waste Land* ?

(4 × ½ = 2 weightage)

II. Write a paragraph of about 150 words each on any *three* of the following :—

- 9 Madame Sosostris in *The Waste Land*.
- 10 The scenes depicted by Hephaestus on the shield of Achilles.
- 11 Hopkins' masterful use of language in "The Windhover".
- 12 The significance of the name Stephen Dedalus.
- 13 The stream of consciousness technique in fiction.
- 14 Virginia Woolf's comments on Russian writers in "Modern Fiction".

(3 × 2 = 6 weightage)

Turn over

III. Annotate any *three* of the following :—

- 15 I dream of a Ledaean body, bent
Above a sinking fire. a tale that she
Told of a harsh reproof, or trivial event
That changed some childish day to tragedy -
- 16 These fragments I have shored against my ruins
Why then Ile fit you. Hieronymo's mad againe.
Datta. Dayadhvam. Damyata.
- 17 A starlit or a moonlit dome disdains
All that man is,
All mere complexities,
The fury and the mire of human veins.
- 18 She smoothes her hair with automatic hand,
And puts a record on the gramophone.
- 19 The best lack all conviction, while the worst
Are full of passionate intensity.
- 20 Who is the third who walks always beside you ?
When I count, there are only you and I together.

(3 × 2 = 6 weightage)

IV. Write essays of about 450 words on any *four* of the following, choosing one from each section :—

Section A

- 21 "Despite his profound individuality, Yeats remains one of the most universal writers ever to have lived". Discuss.
- 22 "*The Shield of Achilles* is a work that paints a hideous portrait of modern life characterized by inevitability and martial horror and set amidst the classical lyricism and vitality of the *Iliad* of Homer". Discuss.
- 23 "Memory is of critical importance in *The Waste Land*. Memory creates a confrontation of the past with the present, a juxtaposition that points out just how badly things have decayed". Elaborate.

Section B

- 24 "The play *Murder in the Cathedral* that deals with an individual's opposition to authority, was written at the time of rising Fascism in Central Europe, and can be taken as a call to individuals to oppose the subversion of the ideals of the Christian Church". Discuss.
- 25 Comment on the women characters in *The Playboy of the Western World*.
- 26 Discuss the significance of Caesar's clemency to rivals and enemies in Shaw's play *Caesar and Cleopatra*.

Section C

- 27 "Although he remains an enigma even to Marlow, Kurtz clearly exerts a powerful influence on the people in his life". Discuss.
- 28 "Using the borrowed language of English, Joyce attempted [in *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*] to write in a style that will be both autonomous from England and true to the Irish people". Discuss.
- 29 Critically examine Paul's relationship with the three main women in his life in *Sons and Lovers*.

Section D

- 30 Comment on T. S. Eliot's attempt to broaden the canvas of British literature.
- 31 Discuss the attempt of Irish writers to create a unique Irish literature in English.
- 32 Elaborate on the salient features of modernist fiction.

(4 × 5 = 20 weightage)