

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

(Residential Autonomous College under University of Calcutta)

B.A./B.Sc FOURTH SEMESTER EXAMINATION, MAY 2015

SECOND YEAR

ENGLISH (Honours)

Paper: IV

Date : 22/05/2015

Time : 11 am – 3 pm

Full Marks: 100

[Use a separate Answer Book for each group]

Group – A

1. Write short notes on **any one** of the following topics: [5]
a) Reform Bill of 1832; b) Great Exhibition of 1851; c) Chartism
2. Answer **any one** of the following questions: [15]
a) Write an essay on the range and variety of Victorian non-fictional prose.
b) Assess the importance of Pre-Raphaelite poetry in the literature of the age.
c) Estimate the contribution of any two women writers to the Victorian novel.
3. a) Write a critical note on Browning's art of characterisation with reference to the subtlety and depth of the Duke's character as revealed in *My Last Duchess*. [15]

OR

- b) 'Dover Beach' is a memorable utterance of the Victorian problem of loss of faith.' Discuss with close reference to the poem?
4. a) Traditionally, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* is considered a story intended for children. If you were asked to support the contention that these are actually stories for adults, how would you defend this? [15]

OR

- b) How do the ways in which the fictional Alice adapts to her shifting and unusual circumstances translate into meaningful lessons for a child of Alice Liddell's age? Discuss with Close reference to the text.

Group – B

5. a) Critically analyse the autobiographical element in Toru Dutt's *Our Casuarina Tree*. [16]

OR

- b) Do you find any message in Nissim Ezekiel's *Enterprise*? Justify your answer.
6. a) "Raja Rao's representation of the Indian independence movement in *Kanthapura* gingerly elides the voices of women, pariahs, and Muslims." [18]
Do you agree with the observation? Give reasons for your answer.

OR

- b) Analyse *Kanthapura* as Raja Rao's quest to reclaim his native land from the colonizers through textuality and language.
7. a) Discuss Girish Karnad's use of the folk theatre form in *Hayavadana*. How would the contemporary urban audience respond to it? [16]

OR

- b) How does Girish Karnad explore the themes of identity and fulfilment in *Hayavadana*? Answer with close reference to the text.

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