

Roll No.

Total Pages : 4

BHQ/M-20

16057

ENGLISH

(Modern British Literature-II)

Paper-XIV

Time : Three Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 80

Note : All questions are compulsory.

1. Explain with reference to the context :

- (a) Among the smoke and fog of a December afternoon
You have the scene arrange itself—as it will seem to do—
With “I have saved this afternoon for you”;
And four wax candles in the darkened room,
Four rings of light upon the ceiling overhead,
An atmosphere of Juliet's tomb
Prepared for all the things to be said, or left unsaid.

OR

No! I am not Prince Hamlet, nor was meant to be;
Am an attendant lord, one that will do
To swell a progress, start a scene or two,
Advise the prince; no doubt, an easy tool,
Deferential, glad to be of use,
Politic, cautious, and meticulous;
Full of high sentence, but a bit obtuse;
At times, indeed, almost ridiculous—
Almost, at times, the Fool.

(6)

- (b) Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow :

And if ever, by some unlucky chance, anything unpleasant should somehow happen, why, there's always soma to give you a holiday from the facts. And there's always soma to calm your anger, to reconcile you to your enemies, to make you patient and long-suffering. In the past you could only accomplish these things by making a great effort and after years of hard moral training. Now, you swallow two or three half-gramme tablets, and there you are.

Questions :

- (i) Who is the speaker of these lines?
- (ii) What is "soma" that the speaker is talking about?
- (iii) Who is the speaker talking to?

OR

"Roses and electric shocks, the khaki of Deltas and a whiff of asafoetida—wedded indissolubly before the child can speak. But wordless conditioning is crude and wholesale; cannot bring home the finer distinctions, cannot inculcate the more complex courses of behaviour. For that there must be words, but words without reason. In brief, hynopaedia."

Questions :

- (i) Who is the speaker of these lines and to whom is he talking to?
 - (ii) What is the place where these words are spoken?
 - (iii) What do you understand by the term 'hynopaedia'?
- (6)

2. Answer any *six* questions in about 100 words each :
- (a) Justify the title of the poem "Portrait of a Lady".
 - (b) Give a character sketch of the old lady in the poem "Portrait of a Lady".
 - (c) What is Prufrock's overwhelming question?
 - (d) What does the poet mean when he says I have measured out my life with coffee spoons?
 - (e) Write a note on the conditioning of infants in the nursery in Huxley's *Brave New World*.
 - (f) Give a character sketch of the Director of Central London Hatchery and Conditioning Centre.
 - (g) Explain "Bokanovsky's Process" in relation to Huxley's novel *Brave New World*.
 - (h) How is the World State governed in Huxley's *Brave New World*? (6×4=24)

3. Attempt any *two* questions :
- (i) In what ways does the World State treat people like commodities in Huxley's *Brave New World*?
 - (ii) Comment on High Culture in the poem "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock".
 - (iii) Discuss "The Portrait of a Lady" as a Dramatic Monologue. (2×7=14)

4. The speaker's confusion in the poem "The Portrait of a Lady" results from the socio-political milieu at the turn of the century. Discuss in detail.

OR

Eliot simultaneously lauded the end of the Victorian era and expressed concern about the freedoms inherent in the modern age. Discuss the comment in relation to the poem "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock". (15)

5. Discuss Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* as a scientific Utopia.

OR

Assess and evaluate Huxley as a satirist, with special reference to *Brave New World*. (15)
