

BHQ/M-20

16059

ENGLISH–XVI

(Modern World Literature–II)

Time : Three Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 80

SECTION–A

1. Attempt any *two* passages. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow :

(a) In contrast with such poverty, he who lived almost like a monk in his remote schoolhouse, nonetheless satisfied with the little he had and with the rough life, had felt like a lord with his whitewashed walls, his narrow couch, his unpainted shelves, his well and his weekly provision of water and food. And suddenly this snow, without waiting, without the forecast of rain. This is the way the region was cruel to live in, even without men– who didn't help matters either. But Daru has born here. Elsewhere, he felt exiled.

(i) Name the story and its author.

(ii) Who is "he" in the passage?

(iii) Why did he feel like a "lord?"

(iv) Why was the region cruel to live in?

(v) Use "cruel" in a sentence of your own.

(b) The riots were suppressed, but there were many burglaries in the suburb and somebody's trusted housemaid was tied up and shut in a cupboard by the

thieves while she was in charge of her employers' house. The trusted housemaid of the man and wife and little boy was so upset by this misfortune befalling a friend left, as she herself often was, with responsibility for the possessions of the man and his wife and the little boy that she implored her employers to have an alarm system installed. The wife said, she is right, let us take heed to her advice. So every window and door in the house where they were living happily ever after they now saw the trees and sky through bars, and when the little boy's pet cat tried to climb in by the fanlight to keep him company in his bed at night, as is customarily had done, it set off the alarm keening through the house.

- (i) Name the story and its author.
 - (ii) Why does writer say "somebody's trusted housemaid?"
 - (iii) "They saw the trees and sky through bars." Explain.
 - (iv) Why did the house owners install the alarm in the house?
 - (v) Use "misfortune" in a sentence of your own.
- (c) Nwoye is old enough to impregnate a woman. At his age I was already fending for myself.

No, my friend, he is not too young. A chick that will grow into a cock can be spotted the very day it hatches. I have done my best to make Nwoye grow into a man, but there is too much of his mother in him."

"Too much of his grandfather," Obierika thought, but he did not say it. The same thought also came to

Okonkwo's mind. But he had long learned how to lay that ghost. Whenever the thought of his father's weakness and failure troubled him he expelled it by thinking about his own strength and success. And so he did now. His mind went to his latest show of manliness.

- (i) Name the story and its author.
- (ii) Who is Nwoye?
- (iii) Who is the speaker of the lines in the first paragraph?
- (iv) What does the passage indicate about Nwoye?
- (v) Use "failure" in a sentence of your own.

(2×5=10)

SECTION-B

2. Answer any *five* questions :

- (a) Daru has a name, Balducci has a name; but The Arab in the story has no name. Why?
- (b) Comment on the ending of the story "The Greatcoat."
- (c) How was the village before the arrival of the dead body.
- (d) Use of irony in the story "Once Upon a Time."
- (e) Why is Okonkwo exile to his mother's land?
- (f) Comment on the significance of Okonkwo's suicide.
- (g) Comment on the role of Egwugwu in the novel.

(5×5=25)

SECTION-C

3. Whatever goes on in between Daru and the Arab in the story is known both of them only. How does it affects the course of the story and what implications does it have for Daru?

OR

Describe the last day of Akaky's miserable life. Do you agree with the view that his punishment is not death but the misery he had to live through?

4. How do the fisher folk give Esteban a 'splendid funeral'? What does this gesture tell us about them?

OR

Comment on the theme of apartheid in the story "Once upon a Time."

5. Comment on the clash of cultures in the novel Things Fall Apart. How does Achebe take a moral high ground for his people in the novel?

OR

Things Fall Apart in not a postcolonial novel in the simple sense of the word, rather it is a solid defence of the African society. Discuss. (3×15=45)
