

Roll No.

Total Pages : 4

BHQ/M-21

31657

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) Now that lilacs are in bloom

She has a bowl of lilacs in her room

And twists one in her fingers while she talks

"Ah, my friend, you do not know, you do not know

What life is, you who hold it in your hands";

(Slowly twisting the lilac stalks)

"You let it flow from you, you let it flow,

And youth is cruel, and has no remorse

And smiles at situations which it cannot see."

OR

For I have known them all already, known them all :

Have known the evenings, mornings, afternoons,

I have measured out my life with coffee spoons;

I know the voices dying with a dying fall

Beneath the music from a farther room.

So how should I presume?

(6)

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

"Our world is not the same as Othello's world. You can't make flivvers without steel – and you can't make tragedies without social instability. The world's stable now. People are happy; and get what they want, and they never want what they can't get And if anything should go wrong, there's soma. Which you go and chuck out of the window in the name of liberty, Mr. Savage. Liberty!....

Questions :

- (i) Who is the speaker of these lines?
- (ii) What is "soma" that the speaker is talking about?
- (iii) Who is Mr. Savage being referred to in the above lines?

OR

"The greater a man's talents, the greater his power to lead astray. It is better that one should suffer than that many should be corrupted. Consider the matter dispassionately, Mr. Foster, and you will see that no offence is so heinous as unorthodoxy of behaviour. Murder kills only the individual – and, after all, what is an individual? We can make a new one with the greatest ease – as many as we like.

Questions :

- (i) Who is the speaker of these lines?
- (ii) Who is Mr. Foster the speaker is addressing to?
- (iii) What is the speaker trying to explain in these lines? (6)

2. Answer any *six* questions in about 100 words each :
- (a) Justify the title of the poem "Portrait of a Lady".
 - (b) What months and seasons are described in the poem "Portrait of a Lady" and what do they signify?
 - (c) How would you interpret an "Overwhelming question" referred to in the poem "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"?
 - (d) Explain the lines : When the evening is spread out against the sky like a patient etherized upon a table.
 - (e) Write a note on the caste division of individuals in the World State in Huxley's *Brave New World*.
 - (f) Give a character-sketch of Mustapha Mond, the World Controller in Huxley's *Brave New World*.
 - (g) Name two scientific processes adopted by the World State in Huxley's *Brave New World*.
 - (h) What do you understand by Savage Reservation? Write a brief note about it. (6×4=24)

3. Attempt any *two* questions :
- (i) Discuss the relation between the sexes in the World State. How do men and women interact in Huxley's *Brave New World*? Who holds the power in social situations, in the workplace, and in the government?
 - (ii) Comment on the title of the poem "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock".
 - (iii) The poem "Portrait of a Lady" reveals the cruelty and violence that lie beneath the restraints of polite drawing-room society. Comment. (2×7=14)

4. The epigraph from *The Jew of Malta* by Christopher Marlowe suggests that there is an element of moral uncertainty and deception in the relationship between the lady and the handsome young man. Elaborate from your understanding of the poem "Portrait of a Lady" by T.S. Eliot.

OR

The theme of *Prufrock* is a personal dilemma, an incapacity to take a decision or face real experience. Explain. (15)

5. Discuss the relationship between science, religion, and political power in the World State in Huxley's *Brave New World*.

OR

It seems undeniable that most World State members are happy, though people like John, Bernard, and Helmholtz might criticize the quality of their lives. What, then, is wrong with World State society? Discuss the relationship between truth and happiness, and the use of soma in Huxley's *Brave New World*. (15)
