

Roll No.

Total Pages : 4

BHQ/J-21

31659

ENGLISH

(Modern World Literature-II)

Paper–XVI

Time : Three Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 80

Note : All questions are compulsory.

SECTION–A

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

- (a) The schoolmaster was watching the two man climb toward him. One was on horseback, the other on foot. They had not yet tackled the abrupt rise leading to the schoolhouse built on the hillside. They were toiling onward, making slow progress in the snow, among the stores, on the vast expanse of the high, deserted plateau. From time-to-time the horse stumbled. Without hearing anything yet, he could see the breath issuing from the horse's nostrils. One of the men, at least knew the region. They were following the trail although it had disappeared days ago under a layer of dirty white snow. The schoolmaster calculated that it would take them half an hour to get onto the hill. It was cold, he went back into the school to get a sweater.

Questions :

- (i) Name the story and its author.
(ii) What did the schoolmaster see ?

- (iii) How could the schoolmaster make out that one of the two knew the region ?
 - (iv) What did the schoolmaster calculate on seeing them ?
 - (v) Use “deserted” in a sentence of your own.
- (b) They had been playing with him all afternoon, burying him in the sand and digging him up again, when someone chanced to see them and spread the alarm in the village. The men who carried him to the nearest house noticed that he weighed more than any dead man they had ever known, almost as much as a horse, and they said to each other that maybe he'd been floating too long and the water had got into his bones. When they laid him on the floor they said he'd been taller than all other men because there was barely enough room for him in the house, but they thought that maybe the ability to keep on growing after death was part of the nature of certain drowned men. He had the smell of the sea about him and only his shape gave one to suppose that it was the corpse of a human being, because the skin was covered with a crust of mud and scales.

Questions :

- (i) Name the story and its writer.
- (ii) Who had been playing with the handsome man all afternoon ?
- (iii) What reason did the villagers give for the extra weight and height of the handsome man ?
- (iv) What thing made it clear that the corpse was of a human being ?
- (v) Make sentence of- ‘alarm’.

- (c) The Feast of the New Yam was approaching and Umuofia was in a festival mood. It was an occasion for giving thanks to Ani, the earth goddess and the source of all fertility Ani played a greater part in the life of the people than any other deity. She was the ultimate judge of morality and conduct. And what was more, she was in close communion with the departed fathers of the class whose bodies had been committed to earth.

Questions :

- (i) Name the story and its author.
- (ii) Why was Umuofia in a festive mood ?
- (iii) What was so specific about the occasion ?
- (iv) What was the belief of people about the earth goddess ?
- (v) Make sentence of- 'Communion'. (2×5=10)

SECTION-B

2. Answer any *five* questions :

- (a) Write short note on absurdism in the story 'The Guest'.
- (b) Discuss the ending of the story 'The Greatcoat'.
- (c) Comment upon the theme of unfounded fear in the story 'Once Upon a Time'.
- (d) What is the message of handsomest drowned man in the world ?

- (e) Why is Okonkwo kill himself in ‘Things Fall Apart’ ?
- (f) Attempt a brief character-sketch of Mr. Brown in ‘Things Fall Apart’.
- (g) Discuss the moral lesson of ‘Things Fall Apart’.
- (5×5=25)

SECTION-C

3. What characteristics of Daru's personality emerge in ‘The Guest’ ? How does he differ from other French people in Algeria ?

OR

Gogol's stories are known for mystery and suspense. Discuss with reference to ‘The Greatcoat’.

4. How does the attitude of women differ from that of men in the treatment of the drowned man in ‘The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World’ ?

OR

Attempt a detailed note on the theme of ‘Once Upon a Time’.

5. Discuss ‘Things Fall Apart’ as a post-colonial novel.

OR

How does Okonkwo represent his tribe with his notions and ambitions ? (3×15=45)