

4/ALTEA-12 (Syllabus-2015)

2 0 1 7

(April)

ENGLISH

Alternative English (Arts)

Marks : 75

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. Answer any *seven* questions : 5×7=35

(a) Describe Oliver Bacon's life before he became a rich jeweller.

(b) "He was as much a stranger to the stars as were his innocent customers."

Comment on the astrologer's profession in the light of the above statement.

(c) In *The Romance of a Busy Broker*, Harvey Maxwell is described as 'absentminded' and 'forgetful'. Give reasons.

(2)

- (d) How does William Blake describe the people of London?
- (e) Is Wilfred Owen's *Anthem for Doomed Youth* an anti-war poem?
- (f) How does Rossetti depict the lover's shortsightedness?
- (g) What is the central idea of Louis MacNeice's poem, *Prayer Before Birth*?
- (h) What prompts Oliver Bacon to give the Duchess twenty thousand pounds for pearls that he suspects are fake?
- (i) Describe the appearance of the astrologer in the story, *An Astrologer's Day* by R. K. Narayan.
- (j) Describe Miss Leslie's odd behaviour in the broker's office in the story, *The Romance of a Busy Broker*.
2. Critically examine the humorous elements in the play, *The Boy Comes Home*. 10
- Or
- Examine in detail, the character of Uncle James. 10

(3)

3. Explain, with reference to the context, any one of the following : 10
- (a) "No, you couldn't—not really afraid of death, I mean. Well that's over now. Good Lord! I could spend the rest of my life in the British museum and be happy."
- (b) ... All you young boys seem to think you've come back from France to teach us our business. You'll find that it is you who'll have to learn, not we."
4. Write an essay on any one of the following : 20
- (a) Drug addiction and its ill-effects
- (b) Rio Olympics, 2016
- (c) Your favourite celebrity

Or

Write a letter to the CEO of the Municipal Board complaining about the menace of stray dogs in your neighbourhood.

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1. Answer any seven questions : 5×7=35

(a) Discuss the role played by the dead mother in the life of the Jeweller in the story, *The Duchess and the Jeweller*.

(b) How did the astrologer come to settle in Malgudi?

(c) Narrate the circumstances that led Maxwell to propose marriage to Miss Leslie in *The Romance of a Busy Broker*. What was Miss Leslie's reply?

(d) Briefly describe the scene in Harvey Maxwell's office.

(e) How does Wilfred Owen expose the brutality of war in *Anthem for Doomed Youth*?

(f) What is William Blake's attitude towards the city of London?

(g) In the poem, *A Sketch*, why does the poet feel "that the object of her affection does not understand her feelings for him"?

(h) What does the unborn child pray for in *Prayer Before Birth*?

(i) Critically examine the character of the Duchess in Virginia Woolf's *The Duchess and the Jeweller*.

(j) What did the astrologer tell Guru Nayak about his past and what advice did the astrologer give Nayak about the future?

2. What effect did the war have on Philip's personality? Discuss in detail. 10

Or

Critically analyze Uncle James's dream in the play, *The Boy Comes Home*.

3. Explain, with reference to the context, any one of the following : 10

(a) And then I went back to the company again ... That was when I became twenty-five or thirty-five or forty-five.

(b) But those were Germans! It's different shooting Germans. You're in England now. You couldn't have a crime on your conscience like that.

4. Write an essay on any one of the following : 20

(a) Climate change and its impact

(b) Corruption is the biggest evil in our society

(c) A day in the life of your mobile phone

Or

Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper highlighting in detail the difficulties faced by the common man due to the steep rise in the price of essential commodities. Mention how rising prices are forcing people to apply for BPL cards in order to provide food for their families.
