

Or

- (b) "Digressions, incontestably, are the sunshine; they are the life, the soul of reading; take them out of this book for instance, you might as well take the book along with them". The narrator of *Tristram Shandy* often alludes to his writing as digressive and progressive at the same time. Discuss how this unfolding and disruption of chronology shapes the conception of time in the novel. 15

This question paper contains 4 printed pages]

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S. No. of Question Paper : 8880

Unique Paper Code : 120131401

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Name of the Paper : British Literature : 18th Century

Name of the Course : B.A. (Hons.) English—CBCS

Semester : IV

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

(Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.)

Attempt all questions.

Question Nos. 1, 2 and 3 (from Section A) are of 10 marks each.

Question Nos. 4, 5 and 6 (Section B) are of 15 marks each.

Section A

1. Critically comment on the following :

(a) Mrs. Fainall.

Or

(b) "A better man ought not to have been sacrificed the occasion; a worse had not answered to the purpose. When you are weary of him, you know your remedy." 10

2. (a) The Struldbruggs.

Or

(b) For these reasons, the trade of a soldier is held the most honourable of all others : because a soldier is a Yahoo hired to kill in cold blood as many of his own species, who have never offended him, as he possibly can." 10

3. (a) To scatter plenty o'er a smiling land,
And read their history in a nation's eyes,
Their lot forbade: nor circumscribed alone
Their growing virtues, but their crimes confined."

Or

(b) "When a man gives himself up to the government of a ruling passion, or, in other words, when his HOBBY-HORSE grows head-strong, farewell cool reason and fair discretion !" 10

Section B

4. (a) Critically analyse the competitive ethic that drives the Restoration milieu as represented in *The Way of the World*. Illustrate your answer with examples from the text.

Or

(b) "When a creature pretending to Reason could be capable of such enormities, he dreaded lest the corruption of the faculty might be worse than brutality itself". In light of this statement by the Houyhnhnm Master, critically analyse the notions of human rationality that emerge from your reading of *Gulliver's Travels*. 15

5. (a) In his poem *London*, Johnson uses the art of imitation as a tool of political and cultural critique of the eighteenth century. Do you agree ?

Or

(b) Critically comment on the narrative voice in Gray's *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*. 15

6. (a) The novel *Tristram Shandy* reveals much about the genre of the novel by its violation of the novelistic form and it's problematizing of the categories of history and life. Discuss.