

(i) Printed Pages : 12 Roll No.

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B.A./B.Sc. (General) 5th Semester
(2122)

ENGLISH

Paper : (Elective)

Time Allowed : Three Hours] [Maximum Marks : 90

Note :— Attempt ALL the questions.

SECTION—I

1. Write short notes on any **five** of the following :

- (i) Indian literature
- (ii) Caste
- (iii) Colonialism
- (iv) Multicultural Society
- (v) Nation
- (vi) Methods of Translation
- (vii) Hybridity.

3×5= 15

2. Answer any **five** of the following questions in about **60-80** words each :

- (i) Discuss the title of the story Toba Tek Singh.

- (ii) What does void symbolize in the poem 'The Void' by G M Muktibodh ?
- (iii) Describe Malgudi as presented in R K Narayan's short story MCC.
- (iv) Discuss the title of the poem Hunger.
- (v) Discuss the significance of the title of the poem 'Dhauli'.
- (vi) Comment on the narrator of the story in Squirrel.
- (vii) Discuss the significance of Holy Panchayat.

3×5= 15

3. Answer any **two** of the following questions in about **180-200** words each :

- (i) Who is the 'Tragic protagonist' in 'The Card-Sharper's Daughter' ? Elucidate.
- (ii) Discuss the superstitious beliefs in The Night of the Scorpion.
- (iii) Critically analyze 'Lihaf' as a feminist text.

2×7.5=15

SECTION—II

4. Make notes on the following passage with suitable abbreviations :

Media fulfills several basic roles in our society. One obvious role is entertainment. Media can act as a springboard for our imaginations, a source of fantasy, and an outlet for escapism. In the 19th century, Victorian readers disillusioned by the

grimness of the Industrial Revolution found themselves drawn into fantastic worlds of fairies and other fictitious beings. In the first decade of the 21st century, American television viewers could peek in on a conflicted Texas high school football team in Friday Night Lights; the violence-plagued drug trade in Baltimore in The Wire; a 1960s-Manhattan ad agency in Mad Men; or the last surviving band of humans in a distant, miserable future in Battlestar Galactica. Through bringing us stories of all kinds, media has the power to take us away from ourselves.

Media can also provide information and education. Information can come in many forms, and it may sometimes be difficult to separate from entertainment. Today, newspapers and news-oriented television and radio programs make available stories from across the globe, allowing readers or viewers in London to access voices and videos from Baghdad, Tokyo, or Buenos Aires. Books and magazines provide a more in-depth look at a wide range of subjects. The free online encyclopedia Wikipedia has articles on topics from presidential nicknames to child prodigies to tongue twisters in various languages. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) has posted free lecture notes, exams, and audio and video recordings of classes on its OpenCourseWare website, allowing anyone with an Internet connection access to world-class professors.

Another useful aspect of media is its ability to act as a public forum for the discussion of important issues. In newspapers or other periodicals, letters to the editor allow

readers to respond to journalists or to voice their opinions on the issues of the day. These letters were an important part of U.S. newspapers even when the nation was a British colony, and they have served as a means of public discourse ever since. The Internet is a fundamentally democratic medium that allows everyone who can get online the ability to express their opinions through, for example, blogging or podcasting—though whether anyone will hear is another question. Similarly, media can be used to monitor government, business, and other institutions. Upton Sinclair's 1906 novel *The Jungle* exposed the miserable conditions in the turn-of-the-century meatpacking industry; and in the early 1970s, *Washington Post* reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein uncovered evidence of the Watergate breakin and subsequent cover-up, which eventually led to the resignation of President Richard Nixon. But purveyors of mass media may be beholden to particular agendas because of political slant, advertising funds, or ideological bias, thus constraining their ability to act as a watchdog. The following are some of these agendas : 1. Entertaining and providing an outlet for the imagination 2. Educating and informing 3. Serving as a public forum for the discussion of important issues 4. Acting as a watchdog for government, business, and other institutions.

It's important to remember, though, that not all media are created equal. While some forms of mass communication are better suited to entertainment, others make more sense as a venue for spreading information. In terms of print media, books are durable and able to contain lots of information, but are relatively slow and expensive to produce; in contrast, newspapers are comparatively cheaper and quicker to create, making them a better medium for the quick turnover of daily news. Television provides vastly more visual information than radio and is more dynamic than a static printed page; it can also be used to broadcast live events to a nationwide audience, as in the annual State of the Union address given by the U.S. president. However, it is also a oneway medium—that is, it allows for very little direct person-to-person communication. In contrast, the Internet encourages public discussion of issues and allows nearly everyone who wants a voice to have one. However, the Internet is also largely unmoderated. Users may have to wade through thousands of inane comments or misinformed amateur opinions to find quality information.

The 1960s media theorist Marshall McLuhan took these ideas one step further, famously coining the phrase “the medium is the message” By this, McLuhan meant that every medium delivers information in a different way and that content is fundamentally shaped by the medium of transmission. For example, although television news has the advantage of offering

video and live coverage, making a story come alive more vividly, it is also a faster-paced medium. That means more stories get covered in less depth. A story told on television will probably be flashier, less in-depth, and with less context than the same story covered in a monthly magazine; therefore, people who get the majority of their news from television may have a particular view of the world shaped not by the content of what they watch but its medium. 15

5. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions :

One of the modern world's intriguing sources of mystery has been aeroplanes vanishing in mid-flight. One of the more famous of these was the disappearance in 1937 of a pioneer woman aviator, Amelia Earhart. On the second last stage of an attempted round the world flight, she had radioed her position as she and her navigator searched desperately for their destination, a tiny island in the Pacific.

The plane never arrived at Howland Island. Did it crash and sink after running out of fuel ? It had been a long haul from New Guinea, a twenty hour flight covering some four thousand kilometres. Did Earhart have enough fuel to set down on some other island on her radioed course ? Or did she end up somewhere else altogether ? One fanciful theory had her being captured by the Japanese in the Marshall Islands and later executed as an American spy; another had her living out her days under an assumed name as a housewife in New Jersey.

Seventy years after Earhart's disappearance, 'myth busters' continue to search for her. She was the best-known American woman pilot in the world. People were tracking her flight with great interest when, suddenly, she vanished into thin air. Aircraft had developed rapidly in sophistication after World War One, with the 1920s and 1930s marked by an aeronautical record-setting frenzy. Conquest of the air had become a global obsession.

While Earhart was making headlines with her solo flights, other aviators like high-altitude pioneer Wiley Post and industrialist Howard Hughes were grabbing some glory of their own. But only Earhart, the reserved tomboy from Kansas who disappeared three weeks shy of her 40th birthday, still grips the public imagination. Her disappearance has been the subject of at least fifty books, countless magazine and newspaper articles, and TV documentaries. It is seen by journalists as the last great American mystery.

There are currently two main theories about Amelia Earhart's fate. There were reports of distress calls from the Phoenix Islands made on Earhart's radio frequency for days after she vanished. Some say the plane could have broadcast only if it were on land, not in the water. The Coast Guard and later the Navy, believing the distress calls were real, adjusted their searches, and newspapers at the time reported Earhart and her navigator were marooned on an island.

No-one was able to trace the calls at the time, so whether Earhart was on land in the Phoenix Islands or there was a hoaxer in the Phoenix Islands using her radio remains a mystery. Others dismiss the radio calls as bogus and insist Earhart and her navigator ditched in the water.

An Earhart researcher, Elgen Long, claims that Earhart's airplane ran out of gas within fifty-two miles of the island and is sitting somewhere in a 6,000-square-mile area, at a depth of 17,000 feet. At that depth, the fuselage would still be in shiny, pristine condition if ever anyone were able to locate it. It would not even be covered in a layer of silt. Those who subscribe to this explanation claim that fuel calculations, radio calls and other considerations all show that the plane plunged into the sea somewhere off Howland Island.

Whatever the explanation, the prospect of finding the remains is unsettling to many. To recover skeletal remains or personal effects would be a grisly experience and an intrusion. They want to know where Amelia Earhart is, but that's as far as they would like to go. As one investigator has put it, "I'm convinced that the mystery is part of what keeps us interested. In part, we remember her because she's our favourite missing person."

(i) Amelia Earhart's nationality was :

- (A) English
- (B) Australian
- (C) Canadian
- (D) American

(ii) All the following are theories about Amelia's fate EXCEPT :

- (A) she crashed on a remote island somewhere near her destination.
- (B) her plane ran out of fuel and crashed into the sea.
- (C) she crashed somewhere on Howland Island
- (D) she escaped incognito and lived under an assumed name.

(iii) The most convincing evidence that Amelia crashed somewhere on land was :

- (A) the finding of aircraft remains.
- (B) distress signals from the Phoenix Islands on her particular radio frequency.
- (C) radio contact with the coastguard from the Phoenix Islands.
- (D) All of these

(iv) If the aircraft were ever recovered from its probable sea grave :

- (A) it would be hardly recognizable.
- (B) it would be in pristine condition and considered highly valuable.
- (C) it may reveal some grisly evidence.
- (D) (B) and (C) together.

(v) The fate of Amelia Earhart still fascinates investigators for all the following reasons EXCEPT :

(A) she was a famous female aviator and adventurer.

(B) there are such conflicting theories about her disappearance.

(C) she was so close to the end of her journey.

(D) she may have staged her own disappearance.

(vi) Who claims that Earhart's airplane ran out of gas ?

(A) Elgen Long

(B) Japanese Marshall

(C) The Coastguard

(D) The Navy

(vii) On the _____ stage of an attempted round the world flight, she had radioed her position.

(A) First

(B) Last one

(C) Second last

(D) Third

(viii) Amelia Earhart disappeared when she was around :

(A) 30

(B) 40

(C) 35

(D) 45

(ix) There are currently _____ main theories about Amelia Earhart's fate.

(A) one

(B) two

(C) three

(D) four

(x) Amelia Earhart is remembered because :

(A) The mystery never got solved

(B) None of the theories were proved

(C) She's our favourite missing person

(D) All the above

15

6 (i) Use any **five** of the following pairs of words in your sentences :

(a) Meet: Meat

(b) Vain: Vein

(c) Trust: Thrust

(d) Merry: Marry

(e) Rip: Reap

(f) Teal: Till

(g) Broad: Board

(ii) Give a one-word substitution of any **five** of the following and use them in sentences :

- (a) Study of handwriting
- (b) Fear of Water
- (c) Madness with an obsession with something
- (d) A carriage for sick people
- (e) Ordinary and Dull
- (f) A government that has a monarch as the head
- (g) A person who eats too much

(iii) Change the form of words as indicated in brackets and use them in sentences (any **five**) :

- (a) Name (verb)
- (b) Look (noun)
- (c) Expensive (adjective)
- (d) Fast (adverb)
- (e) Run (noun)
- (f) Cloth (verb)
- (g) Bright (adjective)

5×3=15