

2017

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 5.4

(The Essay in English : The Twentieth Century)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

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

1. Answer each of the following questions in one sentence (any seven) : 1×7=7
 - (a) Virginia Woolf refers to one of Walter Pater's essay on a Renaissance painter, in her essay, *The Modern Essay*. What is the title of the essay?
 - (b) Who wrote the essay, *A Cynic's Apology*?
 - (c) "The novel is the one bright book of life." Where does this line occur?
 - (d) What does the phrase 'cul-de-sac' mean?
 - (e) When Verrier Elwin met the Abbot of Tawang, what phrase came to his mind?

- (f) What is the height at which 'Se La' is situated?
- (g) On which auspicious day did Verrier Elwin and his group visit The Tawang Monastery?
- (h) When was the Russo-German Pact signed?
- (i) _____ is not to be confused with patriotism.

(Fill in the blank)

2. Answer the following in brief : 2×4=8

- (a) What, according to Woolf, is the primary objective of the essay as a form of literature?
- (b) What idea do you get of the library of the Tawang Monastery from the author's description of it?
- (c) Why does the author consider the novel superior to philosophy, science or even poetry?
- (d) What is Celtic Nationalism?

3. Answer any *one* of the following : 5

- (a) What is Negative Nationalism? Discuss.
- (b) What memories did the visit to the Tawang Monastery evoke in the mind of the author?

4. Explain the following with reference to the context : 5×2=10

- (a) "It seems impossible to get a Saint, or a philosopher or a scientist, to stick to this simple truth. They are all, in a sense, renegades."

Or

"What we mean by living is, of course, just as indescribable as what we mean by being. Men get ideas into their heads, of what they mean by life, and they proceed to cut life out to pattern."

- (b) "Nationalism, in the extended sense, in which I am using the word, includes such movements and tendencies as Communism, political Catholicism, Zionism, anti-Semitism, Trotskyism and Pacifism."

Or

"The nationalist not only does not disapprove of atrocities committed by his own side, but he has a remarkable capacity for not even hearing about them. For quite six years, the English admirers of Hitler contrived not to learn of the existence of Dachau and Buchenwald."

5. Answer the following (any three) : 10×3=30

- (a) "All essays, irrespective of the age in which they appear, according to Woolf must have the 'permanent quality' about it, which must draw the reader into the essay, and hold him in its grip, making the reading experience both worthwhile and rewarding." Present an assessment of this view with reference to the essay prescribed for you.
- (b) Give your perspective on the essay as a literary form on the basis of Woolf's analysis in the prescribed essay.
- (c) Would you agree to D. H. Lawrence's view that the novel has the capacity to encompass the myriad aspects of life? Substantiate your answer with suitable examples from the text.
- (d) Write an illustrative note on D. H. Lawrence's writing style in *Why the Novel Matters*.
- (e) Recount in your own words the various experiences of Verrier Elwin during his pilgrimage.
- (f) Comment on the various forms of political formations and their role in the framing of nationalist consciousness from your reading of the analysis made by George Orwell in the essay.

★ ★ ★