WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY

B.A. General Part-II Examination, 2021

ENGLISH

PAPER: ENGG-II

Time Allotted: 2 Hours   Full Marks: 50

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.
Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.

Answer any *two* questions from Question No. 1 to 4   15×2 = 30

1.   Answer any *one* question from the following within 500 words: 15×1 = 15

   (a) Assess *David Copperfield* as a bildungsroman.

   (b) Write a note on the minor characters in the novel *David Copperfield*.

2.   Answer any *one* question from the following within 500 words: 15×1 = 15

   (a) Write a note on the title of D.H. Lawrence's short story, 'The Prussian Officer'.

   (b) Analyse the character of Mrs. Thurlow in the short story 'The Ox' by H.E. Bates.

   (c) Examine the symbol of the fly in Katherine Mansfield's short story 'The Fly'.

   (d) Comment on the ending of 'The Lotus Eater'.

3.   Read the following passage and answer the following questions: 5×3 = 15

Users typically access social media services via web-based technologies on desktops and laptops, or download services that offer social media functionality to their mobile devices (e.g., smartphones and tablets). As users engage with these electronic services, they create highly interactive platforms through which individuals, communities, and organizations can share, co-create, discuss, and modify user-generated content or pre-made content posted online.

Networks formed through social media change the way groups of people interact and communicate. Social media outlets operate in a dialogic transmission system (many sources to many receivers). This is in contrast to traditional media which operates under a monologic transmission model (one source to many receivers), such as a newspaper which is delivered to many subscribers, or a radio station which broadcasts the same programs to an entire city. Some of the most popular

social media websites, with over 100 million registered users, include Facebook (and its associated Facebook Messenger), YouTube, WeChat, Instagram, QQ, QZone, Weibo, Twitter, Tumblr, Reddit, Baidu Tieba, LinkedIn, LINE, Snapchat, Pinterest, Viber, and VK.

Observers have noted a range of positive and negative impacts of social media use. Social media can help to improve an individual's sense of connections with real or online communities, and can be an effective communication (or marketing) tool for corporations, entrepreneurs, nonprofit organizations, advocacy groups, political parties, and governments. At the same time, concerns have been raised about possible links between heavy social media use and depression, and even the issues of cyberbullying, online harassment and "trolling". Currently, about half of young adults have been cyberbullied, and of those, 20% said that they have been cyberbullied regularly. Another survey in the U.S. applied the Precaution Process Adoption Model to cyberbullying on Facebook among 7th grade students. According to this study, 69% of 7th grade students claim to have experienced cyberbullying, and they also said that it was worse than face-to-face bullying. Both the bully and the victim are negatively affected, and the intensity, duration, and frequency of bullying are the three aspects that increase the negative effects on both of them.

(a) What is the difference between social media and traditional media?
(b) What are the popular social media websites?
(c) What are the positive and negative impacts of social media use?

4. Write a short story in about 500 words beginning with the following words: $15 \times 1 = 15$
"My phone was in silent mode and there were 20 missed calls from an unknown number…."

Answer any *two* questions from Question No. 5 to 8 $10 \times 2 = 20$

5. Examine any *two* questions from the following within 200 words each, with reference to the context: $5 \times 2 = 10$

(a) "He died in the hospital at night without having seen again."
(b) "Mrs. Thurlow pushed her great bicycle down the hill; at six every evening she pushed it back."
(c) "That was why I was curious to meet Thomas Wilson."
(d) "There was something I wanted to tell you', said old Woodsfield."

6. Answer any *one* question from the following within 400 words: 10×1 = 10

   (a) What is the importance of travel in Bacon's essay 'Of Travail'?

   (b) Bring out the elements of humour and pathos in Charles Lamb's essay 'Dream Children: A Reverie'.

   (c) The chief aim of Joseph Addison in 'The Aim of Spectator' is to guide and reform his English reader. Justify.

   (d) Why did Orwell decide not to shoot the elephant? What made him change his decision?

7. Explain any *two* from the following, within 200 words each, with reference to the context: 5×2 = 10

   (a) "Travel, in the younger sort, is a part of education, in the elder a part of experience."

   (b) "And how when he died, though he had not been dead an hour, it seemed as if he had died a great while ago."

   (c) "I have often considered these poor souls, with an eye of great commiseration, when I have heard them asking the first man they have met with, whether there was any news stirring."

   (d) "I have almost made up my mind that the whole story was a pack of lies when we heard Yells a little distance away."

8. Write short notes on any *five* questions of the following within 100 words each: 2×5 = 10

   Gothic novel, Irony, Setting, Sub-plot, Personal essay, Picaresque, Stock Characters, Narrator.

   N.B. : *Students have to complete submission of their Answer Scripts through E-mail / Whatsapp to their own respective colleges on the same day / date of examination within 1 hour after end of exam. University / College authorities will not be held responsible for wrong submission (at in proper address). Students are strongly advised not to submit multiple copies of the same answer script.*

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