

2177

This question paper contains 3 printed pages.

Your Roll No

M.A. / I

J

ENGLISH— Course 4 (b)
(Studies in European Comedy)
(Admissions of 2008 and before)

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks · 75

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

Question No. 1 is compulsory. Answer any three other questions.

NOTE:— *The maximum marks printed on the question paper are applicable for the ex-students of the regular colleges (Cat. 'A'). These marks will, however, be scaled up proportionately in respect of the ex-students of NCWEB at the time of posting of awards for compilation of result*

I Identify and comment on any five of the following

(6 x 5 = 30 marks)

(i) (a) The bells of Notre Dame

OR

(b) Gargantua's birth

(ii) (a) The critique of the pastoral in *Don Quixote*

OR

(b) Idle reader, you can believe without any oath of mine that I would wish this book, as the child of my brain, to be the most beautiful, the liveliest and the cleverest imaginable. But I have been unable to transgress the order of nature, by which like gives birth to like.

(iii) (a) Oronte's role as courier

OR

(b) The Last Scene of *The Misanthrope*

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(iv) (a) "I was going to help you out of a feeling of simple Christian charity, seeing a poor widow working her fingers to the bone, trying to make ends meet. But to hell with you and your village--the plague take you all!"

OR

(b) The carriage (troika) in *Dead Souls*

(v) (a) The President of Forgetting

OR

(b) The island of children

(vi) (a) Erasmus's ideas on language

OR

(b) Comic pleasure and the joke

2 (a) '*Gargantua* is not only a comedy but a serious meditation on matters of war and international diplomacy. Discuss

OR

(b) 'Rabelais' grotesque imagination is evident above all in his representations of the body.' Comment

(15)

3 (a) Comment on the multiple significance of the 'Penance' at the Sierra Morena in *Don Quixote*

OR

(b) 'Violence is endemic in almost all the episodes of *Don Quixote*.' Discuss this statement in relation to the nature of comedy in the novel

(15)

4 (a) Gogol has often been accused of misogyny in his writings. Offer a reading of *Dead Souls* in this context

OR

(b) 'Every chapter in *Dead Souls* may be read as a comedy of manners, but the overarching mood is one of utter despair.' Comment

(15)

5 (a) Would you agree that Eliaante's is the voice of reason in Moliere's *Misanthrope*? Justify your answer

OR

(b) 'The title of Moliere's play suggests a type, but Alceste as "the misanthrope" enables the dramatist to offer a profound interrogation of courtly culture.' Explicate this statement in the light of the comic tradition

(15)

6 (a) Write an essay on the interplay of guilt and responsibility in the narratives of *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting*

OR

(b) How would you read the anguished nature of sexual relationships in Kundera's novel in relation to its political context?

(15)