

U.G. 3rd Semester Examination - 2025

ENGLISH

[MINOR]

Course Code : ENG-MIN-T-301

(Essay and Prose Fiction)

[NEP-2020]

Full Marks : 40

Time : 2 Hours

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

UNIT-I

[Marks : 15]

1. Answer any five of the following: 2×5=10
 - i) Explain the phrase: "a crowd is not company".
 - ii) Why does Bacon compare a man without friends to a "cannibal of his own heart"?
 - iii) What distinction does Steele make between people who seek public attention and those who prefer obscurity?
 - iv) Explain the metaphor of the clock used by Steele in the essay "Recollections of Childhood".

[Turn over]

- v) Why does Lamb call a poor relation "a haunting conscience" of prosperity?
- vi) How do the servants treat a poor relation?
- vii) Why does John Ruskin observe that a woman can not help a man "as a shadow" or "as a slave"?
- viii) What purpose, according to Ruskin, is served by reading great books?

2. Answer any **one** of the following questions: $5 \times 1 = 5$

- i) Examine the three 'fruits of friendship' as discussed by Bacon in "Of Friendship."
- ii) Discuss how Steele distinguishes between death of different persons and the emotions they evoke in "Recollections of Childhood."

UNIT-II

[Marks : 15]

3. Answer any **one** of the following: $5 \times 1 = 5$

- i) Briefly comment on Ramani's dreams and ambitions in Salman Rushdie's "The Free Radio."
- ii) How does the rescue of the child mark the turning point of the story "A Retrieved Reformation"?

4. Answer any **one** of the following questions:

$10 \times 1 = 10$

- i) Discuss how class discrimination and social exclusion operate in Katherine Mansfield's "The Doll's House."
- ii) Discuss the presentation of the theme of escapism in Somerset Maugham's "The Lotus Eater."

UNIT-III

[Marks : 10]

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

$10 \times 1 = 10$

- i) Discuss *A Journal of Forty-Eight Hours of the Year 1945* as an example of early Indian political fiction.
- ii) Discuss the significance of Santiago's struggle with Marlin in "The Old Man and the Sea".