

2025

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : ENG0500304

(Fiction : Modern and After)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ hours

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

1. Answer the following :

1×8=8

- (a) What is the name of Antoinette's family estate in the novel *Wide Sargasso Sea*?
- (b) What happens to Paul at the end of the story, *The Rocking-Horse Winner*?
- (c) What happens to Lieutenant Kotler at the end of the narrative of *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*?
- (d) Who is the protagonist of the story, *Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been*?
- (e) Who is the narrator of part one of the novel *Wide Sargasso Sea*?

- (f) What is the name of the man who helps Bruno with his tyre swing and then with his injury in *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*?
- (g) Who is Christophine in the novel *Wide Sargasso Sea*?
- (h) By what name does Rochester address Antoinette in the novel *Wide Sargasso Sea*?

2. Answer any six of the following questions :

2×6=12

- (a) What is the significance of the title *Wide Sargasso Sea*?
- (b) What is the central message conveyed through the story *The Rocking-Horse Winner*?
- (c) What is the role of Ellie Oscar in the story *Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been*?
- (d) Why does Maria, the maid, say some nice things about Bruno's father?
- (e) What is interesting about the tour flyer called the Johnny Dewhurst Tour?
- (f) What is the role of Daniel Cosway in the novel *Wide Sargasso Sea*?
- (g) Why does Bruno have to wear striped pyjamas?

- (h) What is the significance of the ending of the story *Where Are You Going, Where have You Been*?
- (i) What is the significance of the 'whispering house' in *The Rocking-Horse Winner*?
- (j) Who is Arnold Friend and what is his role in the story *Where Are You Going, Where have You Been*?

3. Answer any four of the following : 5×4=20

- (a) Discuss briefly the theme of memory and trauma in *Wide Sargasso Sea*.
- (b) What were the main causes of the First World War and how did they differ from the causes of the Second World War?
- (c) How do twentieth century novels explore the social and ethical implications of environmental crises?
- (d) Write a short essay on the setting of the story *England* by Graham Swift.
- (e) How does the story *The Rocking-Horse Winner* explore the destructive effects of greed and the desire for wealth?
- (f) How does the story *Where Are You Going, Where have You Been* depict the tension between adolescence and adulthood?

- (g) Describe the main factors that create tension and misunderstanding between Antoinette and Rochester in the novel *Wide Sargasso Sea*.
- (h) Comment on the relationship between Bruno and Gretel.

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

10×2=20

- (a) Examine critically the theme of madness and entrapment in the novel *Wide Sargasso Sea*.
- (b) How does Joyce Carol Oates use Connie's thoughts and perceptions to develop her character? What role does music and pop culture play in shaping Connie's false sense of reality? 5+5
- (c) Comment on the connections binding politics, colonialism and decolonization.
- (d) Write a critical essay on the theme of cultural differences and identity confusion in *England*.
- (e) Examine critically the interplay between childhood innocence and the destructive effects of materialism in *The Rocking-Horse Winner*.

★ ★ ★