ELECTIVE ENGLISH

(Maximum Marks: 100)
(Time allowed: Three hours)

(Candidates are allowed additional 15 minutes for only reading the paper. They must NOT start writing during this time.)

Attempt five questions, covering at least three of the prescribed textbooks. The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].

Note: Credit is given for textual detail and for the candidate’s own response. Candidates are advised to exercise their options with great care, keeping in view their knowledge and understanding of the question(s) chosen. Candidates are also expected to be precise and to avoid unnecessary details.

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD – Harper Lee

Question 1

Who is the ‘malevolent phantom’ of Maycomb in the novel To Kill a Mockingbird? Do you sympathise with the character? Give reasons to support your opinion. [20]

Question 2

Comment on how Tom Robinson and Dolphus Raymond play important roles in the novel To Kill a Mockingbird. [20]

Question 3

How does the children’s experience at Mrs. Dubose’s house teach them what true courage is? What is Jem’s reaction to Mrs. Dubose’s death? [20]
THE HUNGRY TIDE – Amitav Ghosh

Question 4
Comment on Amitav Ghosh’s choice of the title for his novel *The Hungry Tide.* [20]

Question 5
Write short notes on the following: [20]
(a) Fokir’s worship in the mangroves.

(b) Displaced people as a theme of the novel.

Question 6
What performance on the glory of Bon Bibi by travelling actors did Kanai watch at Lusibari? What was the effect of it on Kanai and Kusum? [20]

A DOLL’S HOUSE – Henrik Ibsen

Question 7
What does the title *A Doll’s House* suggest about the play? Is it a suitable title? Justify your opinion. [20]

Question 8
Analyse how Ibsen’s *A Doll’s House* brings out: [20]
(a) Deception
(b) Position of women

Question 9
Attempt a character sketch of Nora. Do you believe she is immature and childish? Justify your opinion with reference to her actions in the play. [20]
DEATH OF A SALESMAN – Arthur Miller

Question 10
Miller’s *Death of a Salesman* talks about denial, contradictions and collapse. Comment. [20]

Question 11
What is your impression of Happy in the play *Death of a Salesman*? [20]

Question 12
Using illustrations from the text, analyse if the play may be read as a critique of consumerism, an encouragement of increasing consumption among the middle class at the time. [20]

NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURY VERSE – Edited by Chris Woodhead

Question 13
How does W.H. Auden use art to convey the theme in the poem *Musee des Beaux Arts*? [20]

Question 14
Why does the hunt in Ted Hughes’ *The Stag* end in disappointment for the spectators? [20]
How does the poet describe the hunt?

Question 15
Critically analyse Edward Thomas’ *March*. [20]