

**NEB - GRADE XII**

**Sub.Code : 220**

**Optional English**

*Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable. The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

**Time: 3 hrs.**

**Full Marks: 100**

Pass Marks: 35 (For partial students only)

**Group 'A'**

Attempt **all** the questions.

1. Attempt any **one** of the following questions: 10
  - a) Interpret the novel 'The Great Gatsby' as a tragedy.
  - b) Discuss the role of social gathering in 'The Great Gatsby'.
2. Answer any **three** of the following questions. 3x5=15
  - a) Do you agree that Dan Cody's function is mainly symbolic ?
  - b) Why does Tom insist that Nick meet his mistress Myrtle ?
  - c) Describe how Jay Gatsby symbolises the American Dream.
  - d) What do Dr Echleburg's eyes represent ?
  - e) What does the white color symbolize ?
3. Answer any **one** of the following questions. 10
  - a) What are the three reasons that Mencken puts forward to justify the 'Penalty of Death' ? (The Penalty of Death)
  - b) What attitude toward work, in Japan, does the name Salaryman imply ? Is salaryman representative of Japanese white color workers ? (A Day in the Life of Salary Man)
4. Answer any **three** of the following questions. 3x5=15
  - a) Write a paragraph about the reaction of the child during the crisis. (The use of Force)
  - b) What are the implications of Crane's comparison of the actual battle to a historical painting ? (An Episode of War)
  - c) What is the tone of the story ? (The Jar)
  - d) Is the story disrespectful to the Catholic Church and the Priesthood ? Give reasons. (The Valiant Woman)
  - e) Why does Dr Kirilov use grief to assert his dignity ? (Enemies)

**(Contd...)**

**Group 'B'**

5. Answer any **one** of the following questions: 10
- Sketch the characteristics of Maurya. (Riders to the Sea)
  - Give an account of the people and places the Kirby family see during their happy journey. (The Happy Journey)
6. Answer any **three** of the following questions. 3x5=15
- Explain the circumstances that provoke Choobookov and Natalia to be surprised and angry with their visitor. (A Marriage Proposal)
  - Describe the parlour and what happens inside it. (Lord Byron's Love Letter)
  - Why does Sylvette Call Percinet a hero ? (The Romancers)
  - What are Nora's first impressions of the house and of her grand uncle ? (Waterloo)
  - What happened outside the St.Regis ? (To Bobolink....)

**Group 'C'**

7. Answer any **one** of the following questions: 10
- Write the critical appreciation of the poem "She Was a Phantom of Delight".
  - Summarize the poem "When I am Dead".
8. Answer any **three** of the following questions: Item 'e' is compulsory. 3x5=15
- Why do the stars throw down their spears ? (The Tiger)
  - Is "like a joyless eye" an apt simile to compare ? Explain. (To the Moon)
  - Do you think that Shakespeare's conclusion in the ending couplet holds truth ? Give reasons. (Shall I Compare...)
  - Why is Lady Clare intent on sharing this secret with Lord Ronald ? (Lady Clare)
  - Explain the following extract with reference to the text.  
When I am dead my dearest sing no sad songs for me Plant thou no roses at my head Nor Shady Cyress trees.