

# 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.)

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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.

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## TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD – Harper Lee

### Question 1

Using examples from the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*, show how Harper Lee portrays the existence of rigid social hierarchy in Maycomb Society. How is this “caste system” responsible for Tom Robinson’s trial and death? [20]

### Question 2

How does the first part of the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* reveal Boo Radley as the focus of the children’s curiosity? [20]

### Question 3

Referring to specific incidents from the novel, analyse the character of Uncle Jack Finch. Briefly describe what Scout remembers of the conversation the two brothers, Atticus and Jack, have about bringing up children. [20]

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This Paper consists of 3 printed pages and 1 blank page.

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**THE HUNGRY TIDE – Amitav Ghosh**

**Question 4**

Fokir is the truest soul of the novel, a poor fisherman who nurtures the delicate narrative. Comment. [20]

**Question 5**

The novel *The Hungry Tide* talks of humans who are no better than predators. Illustrate the truth of this with reference to the novel. [20]

**Question 6**

Describe in detail how Kanai presents us with a vivid picture of his dead uncle, Nirmal, which makes Nirmal come alive in the pages of the novel *The Hungry Tide*. [20]

**A DOLL’S HOUSE– Henrik Ibsen**

**Question 7**

Nora and Krogstad in Henry Ibsen’s *A Doll’s House* share a secret but for a different purpose and end up with a different fate. Comment on this statement with suitable textual reference. [20]

**Question 8**

Bring out the sacrificial roles Ibsen’s women characters play in *A Doll’s House* with reference to:

- (a) Mrs. Linde
- (b) Nora

**Question 9**

How does Torvald and Nora’s relationship contrast with the relationship between Mrs. Linde and Krogstad? [20]

**DEATH OF A SALESMAN – Arthur Miller**

**Question 10**

Willy’s death leaves Linda alone in the house that she and Willy could have rightfully called their own. Comment on Linda’s role and her journey in Arthur Miller’s *Death of a Salesman*. [20]

### Question 11

Write short notes on: [20]

- (a) Biff's 'stealing'.
- (b) Happy's relationship with women.

### Question 12

The *Requiem* in *Death of a Salesman* ends with a sense of dissatisfaction and is the ultimate portrayal of the death of Willy's dreams. Do you agree with this statement? Justify your opinion with close reference to the text. [20]

## NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURY VERSE – Edited by Chris Woodhead

### Question 13

How does D.H. Lawrence convey the theme of life and death in his poem *Bavarian Gentians*? [20]

### Question 14

Analyse how Auden's *The Shield of Achilles* uses contrast to present a horrifying picture of the poet's times. [20]

### Question 15

*The Whitsun Weddings* by Philip Larkin is his own acceptance of the sacred institution of marriage. Discuss the above poem in the light of the given statement. [20]