

This question paper contains 3 printed pages]

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S. No. of Question Paper : 5157

Unique Paper Code : 203305

C

Name of the Paper : Paper 10(c) (Forms of Popular Fiction) (i)

Name of the Course : B.A. (Hons.) (II Year) English

Semester : III

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

(Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.)

Attempt all the four questions.

Question No. 1 has three parts. Each of these parts must be answered.

Question No. 4 has two parts. Both the parts must be answered.

1. (a) Write a short note on the significance of the "little grey cells" in Christie's *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*.

Or

Write a short note on 'red herrings' in Christie's *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*. 10

- (b) Write a short note on James Bond as the iconic hero of the thriller genre, with reference to *From Russia with Love*. 10

Or

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow :

'First name : JAMES. Height : 183 centimetres, weight : 76 kilograms; slim build; eyes : blue; hair : black; scar down right cheek and on left shoulder; signs of plastic surgery on back of right hand ...; all-round athlete; expert pistol shot, boxer, knife-thrower;

P.T.O.

does not use disguises. Languages : French and German. Smokes heavily (NB : special cigarettes with three gold bands); vices: drink, but not to excess, and women. Not thought to accept bribes.'

(i) How does the Russian dossier on Bond consolidate the reader's initial impressions of the secret agent ? 4

(ii) What is the link between the Bond figure and the image of the Anglo-Saxon West ? 6

(c) Attempt a short note on any two :

(i) Mass media and popular fiction.

(ii) Fantasy and popular literature.

(iii) Intertextuality in popular fiction.

(iv) What makes a best seller ? 2×5=10

2. In *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, the author does not devote her talents to the creation of thrills and shocks, but to the orderly 'solving' of a single murder. Comment on the privileging of logic and orderliness in this novel.

Or

A contemporary reader of Christie's time held the view that "when in the last dozen pages of Miss Christie's detective novel, the answer comes to the question, 'Who killed Roger Ackroyd?' the reader will feel that he has been fairly, or unfairly, sold up." With this statement in mind, comment on the rules of detective fiction that Christie rewrote. 15

3. (a) Critically examine the two 'hit-men' in *From Russia with Love*, Donovan 'Red' Grant and James Bond.

Or

(b) Discuss Fleming's representation of women in *From Russia with Love*. 15

4. (a) Examine the effects of the compartmentalization of fantasy and realism in children's literature with reference to Felicity Hughes' essay, 'Children's Literature : Theory and Practice'.

Or

Umberto Eco reads the use of Manichean ideology in James Bond novel. Explain with reference to the essay 'The Narrative Structure in Fleming'. 7

- (b) Examine how Macherey's method of "moving from the problematic of the text to the reconstruction of the ideological field" has presented a new method for the study of popular texts, as cited in Christopher Pawling's essay 'Introduction : Popular Fiction : Ideology or Utopia'.

Or

Discuss Suvin's views on 'paraliterature' and its relationship to bourgeois life in the essay 'On teaching SF Critically'. 8