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Your Roll No.

B.A. (Prog.) / I J

ENGLISH: STREAM A— Paper I

(Text, Anthology of Essays, etc., and Composition)

(Admissions of 2004 only)

[Meant for those who have passed Elective/Core English in Class XII or have been permitted to offer it.]

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 75

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

Attempt all questions.

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

Some years later, in the middle of the Second World War, I was walking down the Silver Market of Old Delhi when I heard the sound of firing. Making my way towards it I turned a corner and came upon a small crowd defying an even smaller band of English soldiers. An elderly man of the poorest class, dressed only in a loin cloth, broke away from the crowd and ran towards the soldiers. One of these pointed an automatic weapon towards him, but the man did not stop. He was shouting in a confused and hysterical manner and it seemed to me that he was not in

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possession of his senses; no doubt as so often happens with Indians, the excitement and the previous shooting had loosened his grip upon his nerves. He ran on, full tilt towards the soldiers. The Englishman with the automatic weapon pressed the trigger and the Indian fell prone, jerking his legs in a fashion that was almost ludicrous and drumming with his fists on the ground. In a few moments he lay still, dead, with blood spouting from a series of wounds in his body. I noticed that the small of his back (for he died on his face) was torn in several places from the bullets which had passed through.

- (i) What did the writer do when he heard the sound of firing in the Silver Market? 3
- (ii) What makes you realize that it was not a full-scale riot that the writer witnessed? 3
- (iii) Why does the old man run towards the soldiers instead of away? 3
- (iv) What makes the sight of the dead man 'ludicrous'? Is it also pathetic? Why? 3
- (v) The writer describes the dead body in some detail. Why? 4
- (iv) Use the following words in sentences of your own:
Crowd, soldiers, weapon, confused. 4

2. (a) Discuss 'Stench of Kerosene' as a tragic love story.

Or

Or

- (b) Do you think Yeats's 'Lake Isle of Innisfree' is only an escapist's fantasy? Or does it provide a real alternative to urban life? 10

5. (a) Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow:

As for me, I'll have my reply if people ask for an explanation. But it is you who will have to live like an ascetic even though you have a wife. And at such an early age. But I cannot understand.

- (i) Name the play and playwright. 2
- (ii) Who is being spoken to and why? 2
- (iii) Who is the speaker? What 'explanation' is he/she referring to? 3
- (iv) What can the speaker not 'understand'? 3

Or

- (b) Why is the play called 'The Gap'? Is the title appropriate? 10

6. (a) Your favourite aunt and unclé have invited you to their 25th marriage anniversary celebrations. Write a letter of regret for not being able to attend the party.

Or

- (b) You had booked a room in a hotel in Goa for a week. For some reason you have to change your

travel plans. Write a letter to the Manager of the hotel requesting him to change the dates of reservation. 10

7. (a) As the president of your college students union draft a notice informing the students about the postponement of the college trip to Shimla.

Or

- (b) Prepare an advertisement for a newspaper offering your services as a tutor for students of classes XI and XII. 5