

This question paper contains 3 printed pages.]

Your Roll No .....

**982**

**B.A. (Hons.)/II**

**J**

**ENGLISH – Paper V(c)**

**(Forms of Popular Fiction)**

**Time : 3 Hours**

**Maximum Marks : 100**

**Note :** The maximum marks printed on the question paper are applicable for the candidates registered with the School of Open Learning for the B.A. (Hons.). These marks will, however, be scaled down proportionately in respect of the students of regular colleges, at the time of posting of awards for compilation of result.

*(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 and Question No. **2** has **two** parts. Each of these parts must be answered.

1. (a) Comment on Christie's choice of the idyllic world of King's Abott for the setting of *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*.

**OR**

Comment on the use of red herrings in *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*.

- (b) 'Mitchell reveals the good side of bad Scarlett and the bad side of good Melanie.' Comment.

**OR**

Critically comment on the portrayal of the lavish lifestyle of Georgian plantation owners in Part I of *Gone With the Wind*.

- (c) It is Salvor Hardin and not Hari Seldon who shapes Terminus's destiny. Comment.

**OR**

Write a note on the *Encyclopaedia Galactica* in Asimov's *Foundation*.

(15 × 3 = 45)

2. (a) Eco identifies paired opposites that help establish the underlying Manichean ideology in Bond novels. Are such binaries applicable to other texts prescribed in your course ?

**OR**

Comment on Pawling's inquiry into the 'dichotomy' between 'popular' and 'elite' literature.

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- (b) Cold War rivalry provided the bases for much of what happens in bestselling fiction. Comment.

**OR**

To what extent is Fantasy an essential component of popular fiction ?

**OR**

How do writers of children's literature use Fantasy to their advantage in raising issues they think are serious ?

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3. (a) The instability of language in *Through the Looking Glass* is intended to question the very foundations of the Victorian emphasis on reason, order and propriety. Discuss.

**OR**

- (b) Alice's Coronation Feast radically unravels the division of the human and the inhuman. Comment with reference to Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass*. **20**
4. (a) In what ways, and to what end, does *From Russia With Love* represent Bond as the ultimate emblem of the 'civilized' West ?

**OR**

- (b) 'Bestselling thrillers cater to the voyeurism of the male gaze.' In the light of this assertion, examine critically the representation of women in *From Russia with Love*. **20**
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