

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2025
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
2nd Year, 2nd Semester (Supplementary)
The Historical Novel

Time : Two Hours

Full Marks : 30

Answer *any three* of the following questions. All questions carry equal marks.

- 1) Do you think the Historical Novel as a genre complicates and confuses our reading of History? Justify your answer with reference to the texts you have read.
- 2) Wherein do you think lies the source of tension in the relationship of Anne Boleyn and Thomas Cromwell as represented by Hilary Mantel in *Wolf Hall*?
- 3) Critically comment on Maharaj Kumar's relationship with Krishna, "the Blue One", in Kiran Nagarkar's *Cuckold*.
- 4) What is the significance of a cemetery space such as Les Innocents to the people living in proximity to it and to the history of the city? Discuss with reference to Andrew Miller's *Pure*.
- 5) Critically comment on the complex representation of Enlightenment rationality in Andrew Miller's *Pure*.
- 6) Is it possible to read Solzhenitsyn's 'Everyman' Ivan Denisovich as a figure of resistance? Explain with close reference to the text.
- 7) Why do you think Marcus Zusak chose Death to be the narrator of *The Book Thief*?
