

Master of Arts Examination, 2022  
Second Year Fourth Semester  
Department of English  
**The Historical Novel**

Time: Two hours

Full Marks: 30

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

- 1) According to Lukacs, what are the historical conditions that led to the emergence of the classical historical novel in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century? Comment briefly on Diana Wallace's critique of Lukacs.
- 2) Where do you think is the source of tension in the relationship of Anne Boleyn and Thomas Cromwell as represented in Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall*?
- 3) Critically comment on Kiran Nagarkar's deployment of history and myth through his representation of the Rajput princess and Bhakti saint Meerabai in the novel *Cuckold*.
- 4) Would you agree that Andrew Miller's *Pure* writes a complex and troubling prequel to the French Revolution? Justify your answer.
- 5) How do the women react, respond and relate to Hardenberg's story of the Blue Flower in Penelope Fitzgerald's *The Blue Flower*? Analyse.
- 6) Is it possible to read Solzhenitsyn's 'Everyman' Ivan Denisovich as a figure of resistance? Explain with close reference to the text.
- 7) Analyse how books have shaped the lives and friendships of Liesel Meminger and Max Vandenburg in Marcus Zusak's *The Book Thief*.