

Ex/UG/CL/CBCS/4.1/2019

BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2019

(2nd Year, 2nd Semester)

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

Course - 4.1

(Modernism in Western Literatures)

Full Marks : 30

Time : Two Hours

All questions carry equal marks.

Answer *all* questions *either* in English *or* in Bangla,
but all *three* in the same language.

1. (a) What are the critical features of Western modernism and how are they related to the transformations of consciousness in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries? Discuss with reference to any two novels in your course.

Or;

- (b) “The struggle of man against power is the struggle of memory against forgetting” – explain what this means with close reference to *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting*, and also discuss whether this would apply to any of the other modernist texts that you have read in this course.

[*Turn over*]

[2]

2. (a) One of the markers of the modernist literary temper is a heightened awareness about form and a belief in the inevitable interdependence of different artistic modes in the created work. Analyse this observation with special emphasis on *To the Lighthouse* and *Mother Courage and her Children*.

Or;

- (b) Do you think that Brecht and Miller have followed the anti-representational theory of modernist art in their plays successfully? Comment with close reference to the plays in your syllabus.
3. (a) Do you think that ‘modernism’ in poetry is marked more by formal innovations than thematic content? Give reasons for your answer with close analyses of any *four* poems in this course.

Or;

- (b) Would you agree that modernist poetry often challenged the complacency of language as the medium of human communication? Discuss your opinion with reference to the poems of at least *three* poets.
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