

## PG – Sem II & IV – Question Bank

### PG Sem II

<i>Paper</i>	<i>Topic/ text</i>	<i>Suggested Questions</i>
CCVI (Unit I)	W.B. Yeats's Poems: 'Byzantium', 'Sailing to Byzantium', 'The Circus Animals' Desertion', Lapis Lazuli, 'An Acre of Grass', 'Easter 1916'.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comment on Yeats' poetic style.</li> <li>2. Comment on the use of Irish culture in Yeats' poems.</li> <li>3. Comment on the use of Irish myths and folklores in Keats' poems.</li> <li>4. Comment on Yeats' idea of old age and creativity in 'An Acre of Grass'.</li> </ol> <p>Comment on Yeats' treatment of the Revolution of 1916 in 'Easter 1916'.</p>
CCVI (Unit II)	Virginia Woolf: <i>To the Lighthouse</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comment on Virginia Woolf's narrative technique.</li> <li>2. Comment on the character of Mrs Ramsay.</li> <li>3. Comment on the character of Mr. Ramsay.</li> <li>4. What role does Lily play in the novel <i>To the Lighthouse</i>?</li> <li>5. Do you think Virginia Woolf has tried to comment on art through the character of Lily Briscoe?</li> <li>6. <i>To the Lighthouse</i> is a store house of memories. Comment.</li> </ol> <p>Comment on the significance of the journey which is also projected in the title of the novel.</p>
CC 7	Man and Superman	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Plot structure</li> <li>2. Characterization: Ann/ Tanner</li> <li>3. Any 3 minor characters</li> <li>4. Themes</li> <li>5. Hell Scene analysis</li> <li>6. Title and sub-title</li> <li>7. Dramatic devices</li> <li>8. How does Shaw blend wit and philosophy?</li> </ol>
CC 7	Murder in the Cathedral	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Role of 4 Tempters/ How are they similar yet different?</li> <li>2. Theme of Martyrdom</li> <li>3. Dramatic relevance of Interlude</li> <li>4. Chorus/ commentary on 1<sup>st</sup> song of chorus/ How Eliot deviates from classical mode in presentation of the chorus?</li> <li>5. Role of Knights</li> <li>6. <i>Murder in the Cathedral</i> as a Poetic Drama</li> <li>7. Is the</li> </ol>

			<p>placing of the Knights' speeches after the murder justified? 8.</p> <p>Does ritual aspect express moral message? 9. Does the play convey more than a Christian message? 10. Do you think that the title should be "Waiting for God"? 11. 'They know and do not know/What it is to act or suffer' 'You know and do not know/What it is to act or suffer'—How are these comments related to Beckett's spiritual progress?</p>
CC 7	<i>Lord of the Flies</i> : William Golding		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Golding refers to himself as a "fabulist". Discuss the novel in this light.</li> <li>2. Critically analyse the symbolism used in the novel.</li> <li>3. Discuss <i>Lord of the Flies</i> as a dystopia.</li> <li>4. Compare and contrast the characters of Ralph and Jack.</li> <li>5. Analyse Piggy as a figure of failed rationality.</li> <li>6. What is the role played by Simon in the novel?</li> <li>7. Consider the island in the novel as a microcosm of the contemporary world.</li> <li>8. Analyse <i>Lord of the Flies</i> from an eco-critical perspective.</li> </ol>
CC7	'Tradition and Individual Talent', 'Baudelaire', 'What is a Classic?', 'The Frontiers of Criticism', 'The Social Function of Poetry'		<p>Short questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When did Eliot deliver his lecture on Baudelaire?</li> <li>2. Which book does Eliot refer to in the context of horse-racing?</li> </ol> <p>Broad Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How does Eliot extol Baudelaire's poetic art in his eponymous essay?</li> <li>2. What, according to Eliot, are the features of a classic?</li> </ol>
DSE3	'The Ghat's Story', 'Ramkanai's Folly', 'The Exercise Book', 'Kabuliwala', 'Hungry Stone', 'The Wife's		<p>Short questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How does Mrinal address her husband in "The Wife's Letter"?</li> <li>2. What was the narrator's profession in "Kabuliwala"?</li> </ol> <p>Broad Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How does Tagore represent the contemporary social condition through his short stories?</li> </ol>

	Letter', 'Woman Unknown', 'Balai'		2.Comment on the supernatural effect created by Tagore in "Hungry Stone".
<b><u>PG Sem IV</u></b>			
CCXII	P.B. Shelley: A <i>Defence of Poetry.</i>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How does Shelley define poetry and poet?</li> <li>2. Comment on Shelley's idea of language in poetry.</li> <li>3. Comment on Shelley's concept of utilitarianism in respect to art/poetry?</li> </ol> <p>Do you agree with Shelley that 'poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world'? Comment.</p>
CCXIII	Gilbert and Gubar: <i>The Mad Woman in the Attic</i> . Part I, Sec 2. Infection in the Sentence: The Women Writer and the Anxiety of Authorship.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comment on women's writing and the problem of authorship.</li> <li>2. Comment on the problem of 'sociosexual differentiation' discussed in the essay.</li> <li>3. Comment on the 'anxiety of authorship' that the women writers felt due to lack of a female literary tradition.</li> </ol>
CC XIII	Barthes: The Death of the Author		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Show how Barthes concludes that the birth of the reader must be at the cost of the death of the author.</li> <li>2. The philosophical implications of the essay echoes trends of postmodernism—discuss.</li> </ol>
CC XII	Selected Letters of Keats		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss the important thoughts of Keats's critical thoughts as embodied in his letters.</li> <li>2. Discuss the Keatsian ideas of the imagination, sensuousness, beauty and truth as expressed in his letter to Bailey.</li> <li>3. What are the views on negative capability that Keats expresses in his letter to his brothers?</li> <li>4. How do the letters of Keats combine the personal with the philosophical and the aesthetic?</li> <li>5. Discuss the writing style of Keats's letters.</li> <li>6. Analyse Keats's viewpoints on beauty and on Endymion as elucidated in his letter to John Taylor.</li> </ol>

DSE	"Why write?": Jean Paul Sartre		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are Sartre's views on writing as an aesthetic pursuit? Discuss.</li> <li>2. How are the contemporary philosophical and political milieu relevant to Sartre's essay?</li> <li>3. Why does Sartre feel commitment is necessary for writers?</li> <li>4. Relate Sartre's philosophy to the prescribed essay in your syllabus.</li> </ol>
CC12	'To Criticize a Critic', 'The Metaphysical Poets', 'Hamlet and his Problems'		<p>Short questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Which German writer does Eliot refer to in his essay "Hamlet"?</li> <li>2. When was the essay "The Metaphysical Poets" first published?</li> </ol> <p>Broad Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why does Eliot complain about the dissociation of sensibility evident in poetry starting from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century?</li> <li>2. 'Hamlet is an artistic failure' – Expound this statement by T. S. Eliot</li> </ol>