Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. All questions have to be attempted.

1. Write short, critical, explanatory notes on:

(a) Louisa

Or

Stephen Blackpool \( (10) \)

(b) Elizabeth Bennet’s reappraisal of Fitzwilliam Darcy

Or

Mr and Mrs Bennet \( (10) \)

(c) Write a short note on any ONE of the following:

(i) Marriage of convenience with reference to at least one of the prescribed novels

(ii) State of religion and society in the Victorian age

(iii) The popularity of the novel in the 19th century

(iv) The “and they lived happily ever after” endings of Victorian novels.

\( (7) \)

P.T.O.
2. (a) “Both Charlotte Lucas and Elizabeth Bennet marry men who will provide them security and social prestige. They only differ in their approach.” Discuss with reference to *Pride and Prejudice*

Or

(b) Comment on Jane Austen’s depiction of Wickham as a villain in *Pride and Prejudice*. Do you think marriage to Lydia would ultimately redeem and reform him? 

3. (a) “The best of friends at the beginning of the novel but alienated at the end. One is redeemed, the other is destroyed.” Comment with reference to Mr. Gradgrind and Mr. Bounderby in *Hard Times*.

Or

(b) Sissy Jupe wins hearts by her warmth, spontaneity and simplicity. Comment on her progress from a “stroller’s child” to the Guardian Angel of the Gradgrinds.

4. Do any two of the following:

(a) “There can hardly be a doubt that we are descended from barbarians.” (Darwin) Explain this statement and its implications.

(b) “The mode of production in material life determines the general character of the social, political and spiritual processes of life.” (Marx). Comment.

(c) The biggest hurdle in the emancipation of women is the fact that man has made woman “not a forced slave but a willing one”. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.

(d) Examine Arnold’s views about culture.

(5000)****