

Unique Paper Code: 12031302

Name of the paper: Popular Literature (Core)

Name of the course: B.A. (Hons.) English

Maximum marks: 75

Time: 3+1 (one hour reserved for downloading of question paper, scanning and uploading of answer sheets)

**Students will attempt any FOUR questions. All questions carry equal marks (18.75 marks).  
Answers to be written in 600-750 words.**

1. Hercule Poirot is an unusual detective who trusts his “the little grey cells” over other forms of detection. Discuss in relation to Christie’s *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*.
  2. In his poems, Sukumar Ray “often uses literary nonsense as satire, commenting obliquely on the colonial society and British administration of the day.” Do you agree? Give a reasoned answer.
  3. In Le Guin’s story, “The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas”, “the child, held captive under unspeakable circumstances in an ambiguously public/private space, serves as a scapegoat for the town.” Elaborate.
  4. Discuss how the narrative form of *Bhimayana* facilitates a debate on the issue of caste discrimination.
- FOR VH STUDENTS ONLY: What according to you, makes Ambedkar's narrative, *Waiting for a Visa* an instance of Popular literature.
5. “A text is literary because it is recognized as such, at a certain moment, under certain conditions.” Discuss any text of your choice in this paper that made you rethink the usual distinction made between literary and popular fiction.
  6. What do you think of Felicity Hughes' views on the role of fantasy in children’s literature? Support your argument by discussing any text of your choice in this paper.



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