

- (d) Her Christian tenderness had gone, or had developed into hardness, a just irritation against the human race ; she had taken no interest at the arrest, asked scarcely any questions, and had refused to leave her bed on one awful last night of Mohurram, when an attack was expected on the bungalow.



2017

Time : 3 hours

Full Marks : 70

*Candidates are required to give their answers in
their own words as far as practicable.*

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Answer from both the Sections as directed.

Section – A

Answer any **four** questions of the following :

15×4 = 60

1. Dickens, as we all know, is utilizing satire to agitate for better conditions in England. Substantiate it in special reference to *Hard Times*.
2. Critics have called *Hard Times* an allegory. Would you agree with this statement ?

3. In *Hard Times*, what is the main message that Gradgrind wants to communicate to the students ? Give a character sketch of him.
4. What purpose does Part III, "Temple", play in *A Passage to India* ?
5. What part does sexuality play in the novel ? Consider any differences of opinion about sexuality between Fielding and Aziz and between Ronny and Adela.
6. What is the role of nature in *A Passage to India* ?

Section – B

7. Explain any **two** passages of the following with reference to context : 5×2 = 10
 - (a) Fact, fact, fact, everywhere in the material aspect of the town ; fact, fact, fact, everywhere in the immaterial. The M'Choakumchild school was all fact, and the school of design was all fact, and the relations between master and man were all fact, and everything was fact between the lying-in hospital and the cemetery, and what

you couldn't state in figures, or show to be purchased in the cheapest market and salable in the dearest, was not, and never should be, world without end, Amen.

- (b) 'Father,' said Louisa, 'do you think I love Mr. Bounderby ?' Mr. Gradgrind was extremely discomfited by this unexpected question. 'Well, my child,' he returned, 'I — really — cannot take upon myself to say.' 'Father,' pursued Louisa in exactly the same voice as before, 'do you ask me to love Mr. Bounderby' ? 'My dear Louisa, no No. I ask nothing.' 'Father', she still pursued, 'does Mr. Bounderby ask me to love him ?' 'Really, my dear,' said Mr. Gradgrind, 'it is difficult to answer your question'.
- (c) A Mosque by winning his approved let loose his imagination. The temple of another creed, Hindu, Christian, or Greek, would have bored him and failed to awaken his sense of beauty. Here was Islam, his own country, more than a Faith, more than a battle cry, more, much more.