

do you think of the way his narrative criss-crosses different journeys into one.

OR

- (b) Comment on Ghosh's portrayal of Karenni's long necked giraffe woman and the complexities of representation, commodification and debates on cultural identity and nationhood.

6. (a) Ved Mehta's interactions with his family members, military and civil leaders and prominent Indian writers and poets are a search for his identity. Comment.

OR

- (b) Analyse the significance of Ved Mehta's encounter with his ancestral roots in Haridwar and his reflections on his Indian heritage in the context of his broader exploration of personal and national identity.

7. (a) The authors of all the three texts in the paper are male. Do you think gender influences our perspective on travel? Discuss with appropriate examples from any one of the texts from your syllabus.

OR

- (b) Although distinct forms of travel writing, the narratives of Vikram Seth, Amitav Ghosh and Ved Mehta deal with questions of identity and belonging. Elaborate on this statement with evidence from any one of the texts from your syllabus.

(3000)

[This question paper contains 4 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 5705

H

Unique Paper Code : 2034001206

Name of the Paper : Travel Writings

Name of the Course : **Generic Elective : English**

Semester : IV

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 90

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. This question paper contains 2 parts. **Both** parts are compulsory.
3. Candidates have to answer **ALL** the questions in **Part A** and **ANY THREE** questions in **Part B**.
4. Questions in **Part A** carry **10** marks each and questions in **Part B** carry **20** marks each.

Part A

1. (a) Identify and critically comment on the following lines :

If I could be guaranteed the lucky place in the Indian sweepstakes that I at present occupy, there is no question as to what my answer would be;

P.T.O.

even if I were poorer than the average Chinese child, I would still prefer to be in India. But if I were born to the inhuman, dehumanising misery in which the poorest third of our people live, to the squalor and despair and debility that is their life, my answer would not be the same.

OR

- (b) What according to Seth is the status of the foreigner or foreign guest in China?
2. (a) Identify and critically comment on the following lines :
- Molyka was scared, and she had reason to be. The government's underpaid (often unpaid) soldiers and policemen were increasingly prone to banditry and bouts of inexplicable violence. Not long before, I had gone to visit a hospital in an area where there are frequent hostilities between State troops and the Khmer Rouge.

OR

- (b) What sparks Ghosh's interest in Burma? How do his writings challenge the Eurocentric approach of travel writing?
3. (a) Identify and critically comment on the following lines:
- When I arrived at Oxford, after living in America for seven years, I was crew-cut innocence abroad.

I sprang out of bed at the healthy hour of seven, drank milk with breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and was in bed before midnight. I submitted to the influences of Oxford when I started breaking up my afternoon work with a cup of tea at four. Then followed a cup of coffee after dinner. Sometimes I let myself be persuaded to coffee after lunch also. Then came sherry before dinner, first on week ends, then on weekdays.

OR

- (b) What makes Ved Mehta return to India after living abroad for more than a decade?

Part B

4. (a) What makes Vikram Seth, a 26-year-old young student at Nanjing University decide to go on a hitchhiker's journey across China and Tibet to reach India? Answer using suitable evidence from the text.

OR

- (b) Seth uses ingenious methods to gain entry into forbidden lands and overcomes the challenges of restricted access to Tibet during his journey in *From Heaven Lake*. Discuss with suitable examples from the text.
5. (a) Ghosh's travelogue on Cambodia begins with the history of King Sisowath's travels to France. What