

(b) How does Amitav Ghosh's portrayal of everyday life reveal the ways in which ordinary citizens survive under repressive regimes in Cambodia and Burma? Discuss with examples from the two essays.

6. (a) Discuss the significance of Ved Mehta's meeting with Jawaharlal Nehru in *Walking the Indian Streets*. How does this encounter influence the author's hopes and fears regarding the future of India?

OR

(b) How does Ved Mehta's blindness contribute to the distinctiveness of his narrative technique and his understanding of India in *Walking the Indian Streets*?

7. (a) Analyse how the idea of "belonging" is questioned and redefined in any two of the texts in your syllabus. How do the authors respond to feelings of displacement and cultural difference?

OR

(b) Based on your reading of at least two texts in the course, critically comment on how these texts represent political, social and cultural power structures in the societies they depict.

(1200)

[This question paper contains 4 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 5592

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Unique Paper Code : 2034001206

Name of the Paper : TRAVEL WRITINGS

Name of the Course : **GENERIC ELECTIVE
ENGLISH**

Semester : 2/4/6/8

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:

As I sit in my seat sipping tomato juice and adjusting my watch to New Delhi time, the whole of the last two months takes on a dreamy quality.

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I can more easily see myself standing outside the police station at Turfan than travelling through Anduo or Shigatse. Even having been to Tibet, it still strikes me as ‘somewhere I would like to travel to’, a place I feel I still know next to nothing about.

OR

- (b) At various times in his journey, Vikram Seth compares China and India. Summarise these comparisons.
2. (a) How does Amitav Ghosh use personal encounters to examine the political realities of Cambodia and Burma?

OR

- (b) How does Ghosh’s visit to the Cambodian dance school and his interactions with the dancers reveal the cultural destruction caused by the Khmer Rouge regime?
3. (a) Critically analyse the role and significance of his aunt’s letter in triggering Ved Mehta’s physical and emotional journey of homecoming in *Walking the Indian Streets*.

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OR

- (b) Discuss how Ved Mehta reflects on the gap between idealism and reality in post-independence India with specific reference to “Sitting on the Issues”.

PART B

4. (a) Discuss the various motivations behind Vikram Seth’s journey in *From Heaven Lake*. Illustrate your answer with examples.

OR

- (b) In what ways does Vikram Seth’s travel narrative *From Heaven Lake* redefine the idea of global mobility challenging the norms of conventional tourism? Discuss with examples.
5. (a) Amitav Ghosh contextualizes contemporary Southeast Asian political realities within longer histories of colonialism. How does his historical framing complicate Western narratives about Burma and Cambodia?

OR

P.T.O.