

M.A. Examination, 2014

Semester – I & III

English

Paper – XXV (Optional)

(Literature of Nonsense)

(For Back Candidates Only)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value.

1. (a) The playfulness of Nonsense literature is close to the critiquing spirit of the carnivalesque. How far would you agree? Give reasons for your answer.

or

- (b) Nonsense as a discourse is actually a strategy that locates itself far away from nonsensicality. Is this an acceptable view of the genre? Justify.

2. (a) Literary and visual texts of Sukumar Ray's verse complement, and not mirror, each other. Discuss critically.

or

- (b) In the Indian context, the modern, urban Nonsense spirit has its roots in the traditional folk consciousness. Discuss with reference to the Indian nonsense verses in your syllabi.

or

- (c) Are the verses of Edward Lear merely comic, or do they contain deeper implications? Justify your view.

3. (a) Sukumar Ray's Indian 'adaptation' of Carroll's text in "The Topsy-Turvy Tale" shows the fluidity of discursive traffic between India and England in colonial times. Discuss critically.

or

- (b) Critically comment on the theme of journey to alien locales in Edward Lear's short stories.

4. (a) Would you agree that through the prevalent chessboard metaphor in *Through the Looking Glass* Carroll offers a critique of British imperial advancement and territorial aggression in the realm of Queen Victoria? Justify your view.

or

- (b) Comment on the implications of the title of Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass*.
-