

**DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

December, 2013

DCE-1 : GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF WRITING

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

(Weightage 70%)

*Note : The paper has **two** sections, A and B. Answer **five** questions in all, choosing at least **two** from **each** section. All questions **carry equal** marks.*

SECTION - A

1. How does reading influence the aspiring writer ? **20**
Illustrate your answer giving examples from what you have read. **(450 words)**
2. What are formula stories ? Illustrate your answer with examples. **20**
(450 words)
3. What does dialogue reveal about the characters ? **20**
Answer with examples from fiction, poetry, or drama. **(450 words)**
4. Write a note on the autobiographical mode of narration. What are the limitations of this mode and how should the writer attempt to overcome them ? **20**
(450 words)

5. Why are imagery and symbols important in poetry ? Answer with suitable examples. (450 words) 20

SECTION - B

The following extract is the opening of an Italian short story. Read it carefully and answer the questions below :

Zefferino's father never got into bathing-dress. He stayed in rolled-up trousers and vest, with a white linen cap on his head, and never moved away from the rocks. He had a passion for limpets, the flat clams which stick to rocks and become with their very hard shells almost part of the stone. To prise them off Zefferino's father used a knife, and every Sunday he would scrutinize the rocks on the headland one by one through his spectacled eyes. On he would go until his little basket was full of limpets; some he ate as soon as gathered, sucking the damp bitter pulp as if from a spoon; the rest he would put into his basket. Every now and again he would raise his eyes, let them meander over the smooth sea and call out : 'Zefferino! Where are you ?'

Zefferino spent whole afternoons in the water. They would go together as far as the point, then his father left him there and went straight off after his clams. Limpets were no attraction to Zefferino, they were so motionless and stubborn, what interested him most were crabs, then octopuses, jellyfish and then eventually any kind of fish. In summer his hunts became ever more arduous and resourceful; and now there was not a boy of his age who was so good with an underwater gun as he.

6. (a) What impression do you form of the kind of persons Zefferino and his father are ? Identify lines from the passage that suggest personality-traits. (200 words) 10
- (b) In your opinion, is this a successful opening for a short story ? (250 words) 10
7. On the basis of the passage given above write an imaginary conversation between Zefferino and his father as they are walking from their home to the beach. (450 words) 20

8. Read the following poem and answer the questions below.

A Difference

'But surely,' she says, 'there are some
you love, some you trust ?

'Me, for example. Think of me
please as some sort of flower'

It's easy enough. We're sitting
on the grass.

She looks exactly
like a gigantic flower.

So I say to her,
but she still looks sad.

'There is a difference',
she tells me gently,

'between a simile
and a genuine metaphor.'

- (a) What is the tone of this poem - serious or humorous ? Discuss. (250 words) 10
- (b) How does the poet suggest the kind of relationship the two people in the poem share ? 10