

**DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination 00114

June, 2013

DCE-1 : GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF WRITING

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

(Weightage 70%)

Note : This 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. Discuss a short story or novel you have read recently in terms of the information it provides about the society in which it is set ? How important is it for fiction to provide accurate information ?(450 words) 20
2. Write a note on the relationship between the reader and the writer. Should a writer always keep the reader in mind ? Give a reasoned answer. (450 words) 20
3. Write a note on the difference between the use of dialogue in poetry and drama giving suitable examples. (450 words) 20

4. Why are imagery and symbols used extensively in poetry ? Give examples of striking imagery and symbols from the poems you have read to illustrate your answer.(450 words) **20**
5. In your opinion what is more important-the writer's own experience or research ? Give a reasoned answer.(450 words) **20**

SECTION - B

The following extract is from a short story. Read it carefully and answer the questions that follow :

'Papa, I want you to read this book. If you find even one paragraph dirty, you can throw me out of the house,'

He continued staring at me, but his condescension had morphed into a confused scowl now.

'I am sorry I hid it from you,' I continued, 'but I really can't help if the cover is like that....believe me.....the book isn't.'

Papa took the book from my hand. His eyes were sceptical and thoughtful at the same time.

A few days later, when I came back from college, I found papa waiting for me.

'Here's your book,' he said, handing over the Chase to me.

I swallowed apprehensively, wondering what he would say next. James Hadley Chase rarely, if ever, wrote sleazy lines or sexual descriptions, but I had not read this book yet.

Papa was quiet for a few more seconds, like fathers are when they have to take back something they have said. Finally, he cleared his throat and spoke, 'Well, I shouldn't have judged the book hastily by its cover. Nor you for that matter.'

Papa continued speaking almost to himself, the only question is..... do i have to get used to such pictures? In my house?’

‘I can stop reading them if you want me to.....

‘No, no,’ Papa replied, shaking his head.

‘Surprisingly for a book like this, it carries a good message: crime never pays.’

6. (a) What is the tone of the story-serious of funny ? Identify lines that set the tone. (200 words) **10**

(b) Do you agree with the father’s assessment that crime fiction may be educational for an adolescent boy? What is your assessment? (200 words) **10**

7. Write an imagined opening to the story from which the above extract has been taken and give it an appropriate title. (450 words) **20**

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

I crept into your room tonight
about eleven o’ clock just as i used to do
when you were eight or nine years old.

But you were gone-
it came as quite a shock to find
Your bed so empty, cold.

Since then I've tried to recollect.

the moment when you left-
while i chatted at the shops ?
Or maybe as I couch-potato slouched
staring at the world's disasters.

Your room was tidy, the Lego neatly
stored below the bed in two red
plastic boxes, your cars
precision-parked along the windowsills.

Your books, tapes and videos
lined the shelves, dusty with memories
photos of you smiled down from the walls-
a small blonde boy, eyes shining.

And then I realised I hadn't seen
that child for such a long dark time.

So, when I crept into your room
expecting his blonde and tousled head
dreaming on the pillow, expecting
to kiss his sleep-warm cheek
it frightened me to find him gone.

Tonight I'll leave a window open-
just in case. I'll leave
the door unlocked,
the stair light on.

- (a) How does the poet communicate the enormity of her loss to the reader? Identify in the poem imagery that suggests loss. (200 words) **10**
- (b) This poem is telling a story. Write the opening of a short story on the same theme and give it an appropriate title. (250 words) **10**
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