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Register Number:

DATE: 20-04-2017

**ST. JOSEPH’S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BENGALURU-27**

**IV SEMESTER EXAMINATION, APRIL 2017**

**MA-ENGLISH**

**EN 0416 European Literature II**

**Time: 2 ½ hours** **Max Marks: 70**

**SECTION-A**

**I. Answer any one of the following: (15 x 1 = 15)**

1) What do you find culturally distinctive about Russia and Eastern Europe (as contrasted with Western Europe) and how, broadly speaking, do the writers of the region articulate some of its most pressing themes and issues?

2) How would you respond to the view that a major and recurrent theme in European literature is the struggle to increase the autonomy of the individual in the face of a state and a society that seek conformity? Discuss with reference to any text(s) you read in this course.

**SECTION-B**

**II. Answer any THREE of the following: (15 x 3 = 45)**

3) In what ways do you find Flaubert’s *Madame Bovary* to be a unique novel? Choose one feature of the novel that you found fascinating and provide a commentary on it.

4) What effects does Tolstoy achieve by juxtaposing the life trajectory of Anna with that of Levin? What illuminations does this strategy provide the reader of *Anna Karenina*?

5) How do Magris’ *Danube* and Pamuk’s *Istanbul* capture the spirit of a place with the same intensity and artistic richness as can be found in the best works of literary fiction?

6)Milan Kundera’s *The Joke* can be read as a re-play of Kafka’s understanding of the nightmarish menace and oppressive power of bureaucratic and totalitarian regimes. Respond to this statement by drawing on specific instances/tropes from the texts of both Kafka and Kundera?

7) How does the power of allegory in Szymborska’s poems open up avenues for a deeper understanding of the struggle to break free from the thought control that states and organizations impose?

**SECTION-C**

**III Write short essays on any ONE of the following: (10x1=10)**

8) Pirandello’s interrogation of the idea of patriotism

9) Chekov’s tragicomic view of life as manifested in the monologue, ‘On the Harmfulness of Tobacco’

**EN-0416-A-17**

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