

**LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034**



**M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**SECOND SEMESTER – APRIL 2016**

**EL 2957 – BIOGRAPHY AND TRAVELOGUE**

Date: 27-04-2016

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

Time: 01:00-04:00

I. Answer any **FIVE** of the following in about **75** words each: (5x2=10 marks)

1. Write a brief note on the stay of the children at St. Louis in the book *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.
2. Write an account of the tradition that glorifies the dancer of Kannur every year.
3. Comment on the weather that marked the start of Vikram Seth's travel through *Sinkiang and Tibet*.
4. What does William Darlymple say about eroticism in the temple carvings?
5. Briefly write down the series of scenes that Soyinka witnesses while being imprisoned at "Ibadan-Lagos"
6. Identify the elements of 'Bildungsroman' in the autobiography *The Man Died*.
7. Write down the manner in which Sylvia Nasar represents the theme of insanity and genius in her phenomenal biography of John Nash.
8. Briefly write about the Thalidomide scandal as portrayed by Harold Evans.

II. Answer any **TWO** of the following in about **200** words each: (2x15=30 marks)

9. Describe how *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* throws light on racism which was rampant during the life of the author.
10. Elaborate on the language, culture, population and characteristics of any three of the travel destinations in *Heaven Lake*.
11. Discuss in detail the theme of social stratification with reference to John Nash's relationship with Eleanor Steir.

III. Answer the following in about **400** words each: (3x20=60 marks)

12. Choose any four lives from the book *Nine Lives* by William Darlymple and analyze the factors that glorify those lives.

**(Or)**

Justify the idea that 'Biography/'Autobiography' and Travelogue are complimentary to each other based on your reading of the prescribed texts.

13. Attempt an essay on the focal themes of 'survival of an individual' and the quest for 'justice' and 'integrity' as a communal and cosmic process in the mind of an individual in the "The Man Died: Prison Notes."

**(Or)**

Write a travelogue based on your recent visit to any scenic and hilly region.

14. "Harold Evans is appropriately celebrated as the inventor of team journalism." – Elucidate your point of view with reference to Evans's confrontation with power corridors.

**(Or)**

Compare '*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*' with any other candid autobiography that you have read and elaborate on the similar factors.

\$\$\$\$\$\$