

[This question paper contains 4 printed pages.]

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 6431

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Your Roll No.....

Unique Paper Code : 203563

Name of the Paper : English I (Modern Indian Literature – Poems and Short Stories)

Name of the Course : B.Sc. (Mathematical Sciences)

Semester : V

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.

PART A

Attempt one question from Part A.

1. ***The Merchant of Venice*** (answer any 3) (3×10=30)

- (a) Comment upon the many similarities between the Christian Antonio and the Hebrew Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice*.
- (b) Does the play question Christian virtues through the character of Shylock ? Discuss.
- (c) Compare and contrast the two locations of Venice and Belmont. What is the significance of these distinct settings in the play ?
- (d) What is the significance of 'a pound of flesh from nearest the heart' in *The Merchant of Venice* ? Why not the heart itself ?

P.T.O.

2. *Wuthering Heights* (answer any 3) (3×10=30)

- (a) Do you consider Nelly Dean to be a reliable narrator in the novel *Wuthering Heights* ? Discuss.
- (b) How important is the role of class in the novel, particularly as it relates to Heathcliff and his life ?
- (c) How is love responsible for conflict and destruction in *Wuthering Heights* ?
- (d) How does Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* question expectations regarding social conventions and gender roles ?

3. *Mother Courage and Her Children* (answer any 3) (3×10=30)

- (a) How do various characters in the play conceive of motherhood ? What is the role of children in the play ? What is the relation between maternity and war ?
- (b) Write a brief note on Kattrin's role and self-sacrifice in *Mother Courage and Her Children*.
- (c) Attempt a character sketch of Yvette in *Mother Courage and Her Children*.
- (d) What do you think of Mother Courage's name ? Is it one she deserves ? Why or why not ?

4. *A Passage to India* (answer any 3) (3×10=30)

- (a) Compare the different approaches to the Indian experience by Ronnie Heaslop and Fielding in *A Passage to India*.
- (b) What is the effect of Professor Godbole's song upon Adela and Mrs. Moore in the novel ?
- (c) Compare Forster's depiction of the English in Chandrapore with his depiction of Aziz's Indian community in *A Passage to India*. Do the two groups have any similarities ? Does Forster portray one group more sympathetically ?

- (d) In what way does Adela get the “worst of both worlds” in the novel *A Passage to India* ?

PART B

Attempt all questions from this section.

5. Poetry Section

- (a) The stars who had died in the sky's lap thousands of years ago'
 They too came through the window, bringing with them countless dead skies.
 The beauties I had seen dying in Assyria, Egypt and Vidisha,
 Seemed to stand ranked on the faraway frontiers of the skies,
 Among the mists, with long spears in their hands.
 Was it to trample down death ?
 Was it to express the deep- felt triumph of life ?
 Was it to raise a stem fearsome tower of love ?

- (i) Name the poet and identify the lines in their context. (5)
 (ii) What do the streaks of light from the star signify ? (5)
 (iii) How can the forces of disintegration be defeated ? (5)

OR

- (b) Discuss the kind of pain and anguish you experience while reading Jayant Mahapatra's poems “Hunger” and “Dhauri”. (15)

6. Prose Section

- (a) “The focus of the narrative now shifts to Mandan Muthapa, a young man of twenty -one jet - black in complexion and slightly cross-eyed. However he always had a charming smile on his face. Like Zainba, he had lost his mother in his childhood”

- (i) Identify the author and the title of the story from where the above lines have been taken. (5)
- (ii) Who is Mandan Muthapa ? Why is he called so ? (5)
- (iii) What is the relationship between Zainba and Mandan Muthapa ? (5)

OR

- (b) Do you think that Narayan has been able to take us into the world of children in his story "The MCC" ? Illustrate your answers with reference to the text. (15)

7. Attempt any **one** question.

- (a) "In the middle on a strip of no man's land lay Toba Tek Singh". What is the significance of this statement in the story "Toba Tek Singh" ? (15)

OR

- (b) Discuss Premchand's criticism of avarice and greed with reference to "The Holy Panchayat". (15)

OR

- (c) What is the main theme of Jibananda Das's poem "Before Dying" ? (15)