

This question paper contains 4+2 printed pages]

Your Roll No.....

1117

B.A. (Hons.)/II Sem.

B

ENGLISH—Paper V

[Twentieth Century Indian Writing (ii)]

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

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

Attempt all questions. Section A has *three* questions

of 10 marks each and Section B has

*three* questions of 15 marks each.

#### Section A

1. (a) "My mother only said

Thank God the scorpion picked on<sup>1</sup> me

and spared my children."

(i) Identify the poem and its poet and comment on

how the speaker uses childhood memories of the

incident to generate irony in the poem ? 5

P.T.O.

- (ii) Is there a validation of any one reaction to the scorpion bite and if so which one ? Give reasons why it gets the speaker's endorsement. 5

Or

- (b) "A man becomes great by making speeches. Another becomes poor by drinking too much. One takes a copper from his maternal aunt and buys a kite. Another grabs it from him."

- (i) Identify the above lines and comment on the structure of the stanza and its relation to the rest of the poem. 5
- (ii) How does the ending of the poem deal with the duality of these lines ? 5

2. (a) Refer to the context with critical comments :

Sutradhar : The soldiers come ! (Soldiers enter. Mime according to the Sutradhar's ails of the Brahman's right hand are pulled out. The fingers are washed with lemon juice and soap. All the lines and signs of his hand are noted. His hands are wrapped in a bag and the bag is sealed. The ordeal is prepared. \*

Others : (quietly) Dnyanaba.....Tukaram..... . 10

Or

- (b) What reason ? A cup of tea split from his hand or a short delay when he returns from work ? These little things are not really reasons, they become reasons.

10

P.T.O.

3. (a) Write a short note on May Price. 10

*Or*

- (b) Refer to the context with critical comments :

I understand very well, the old man muttered. I know everything. I understand everything. Once you start moving you never stop. That's what I told my sons when they took the trains. I said : I don't believe in this India-Shindia. It's all very well, you're going away now, but suppose when you get there they decide to draw another line somewhere ? What will you do then ? Where will you move to ? No one will have you anywhere. As for me, I was born here, and I'll die here.

## Section B

4. (a) Discuss any two poems of Jibanananda Das in your course with special attention to the poet's treatment of the ideas of death. 15

Or

- (b) In "Goodbye Miss Pushpa T", Nissim Ezekiel highlights the postcolonial negotiation of language. Discuss. 15
5. (a) Describe the fate of Ghashiram's daughter and the role he plays in her ruin and death. 15

Or

- (b) Do you think Savitri in *Halfway House* has been depicted in a positive manner as an independent working woman ? Give a reasoned answer. 15

6. (a) Critically analyse Amitav Ghosh's novel, *The Shadow Lines* in the light of its title. 15

Or

- (b) Discuss the role that Thamma plays in Amitav Ghosh's novel, *The Shadow Lines*. 15