

[This question paper contains 2 printed pages.]

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 6102

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Your Roll No.....

Unique Paper Code : 203404

Name of the Course : B.A. (Hons.) English

Name of the Paper : Classical Literature (ii)

Semester : IV

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. Attempt all four questions.
3. The first question has three parts (a, b, & c), each of which is to be answered.

1. (a) *"A stupid mind is led to no good
Nor a corrupt wench to a scholar's house.
Of course it displeases this bharata bull
As a sexagenarian displeases a girl.
If all you would hear is what pleases you, prince,
In all that you do, be it good or bad,
Ask the women, prince, and the dumb and the halt,
Go ask those that are equally silly."*

Critically comment on the representation of women in the above lines. How significant is it that it is Vidura who speaks these lines in the dicing scene from the *Mahabharata* ? (10)

OR

How has slavery been depicted in the Game of Dice scenes from the *Mahabharata* ?

P.T.O.

- (b) "I was carried far, far away, lured
by your impassioned song, compelling.
Even as the King Duhsanta here,
Was, by the fleet fleeing antelope."

Critically comment on the metaphor of hunt in *Abhijnanasakuntalam*. How is it introduced in the play? (10)

OR

What is the role and function of the *vidushaka* in *Abhijnanasakuntalam*?

- (c) "You are a clever woman...."

Compare and contrast Creon's assessment of Medea with that of Aegeus. What dramatic purpose does this difference serve? (10)

OR

Jason is a legendary hero. How has he been depicted in *Medea*?

2. Critically comment on Yudhishthira's stakes in the game of dice. Why does he say that 'Once challenged, I will not desist...'? (15)

OR

"The Kauravyas refuse to answer the question." Critically examine Draupadi's question and the *sabha*'s responses to it in the Game of Dice episode from the *Mahabharata*.

3. Do you agree with the view that the primary anxiety that underlies *Abhijnanasakuntalam* is the birth of a son and heir? Give a reasoned answer. (15)

OR

What is the thematic and structural relevance of the two *ashramas*, of Kanva and Marica, in *Abhijnanasakuntalam*?

4. Discuss the role that the Chorus plays in *Medea*. (15)

OR

Would you agree with the view that Medea's character is the primary cause of her tragedy? Give a reasoned answer.