

Sl. No. of Ques. Paper : 3119 F-5  
Unique Paper Code : 2031501  
Name of Paper : Indian Classical Literature  
Name of Course : BA (Hons.) English  
Semester : V  
Duration : 3 hours  
Maximum Marks : 75

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

All four questions are compulsory. Attempt all three parts of Question No. 1.

1. Answer the following questions briefly:

(i) Discuss the role of Bhisma in *The Dicing* and *The Sequel to the Dicing*.

Or

Discuss Sakuni as the political strategist for the Kauravas.

(ii) Write a short note on the role of Marica and Aditi in *Abhijnanashakuntalam*.

Or

Analyse the following passage with reference to its context:

Why are you out to sully your family's honour,  
and to make me fall; you are like a river  
that crumbles its banks to muddy its crystal stream,  
and uproots the tree growing by its edge.

(iii) "Sir ... deposits are entrusted to *persons*, not *houses*."

Evaluate the character of Charudatta in the light of this remark.

Or

Discuss briefly the transformation of Samvahaka into a Buddhist monk in *The Little Clay Cart*.

2. *The Dicing* and *The Sequel to the Dicing* subtly explore the complex relationship of power between Draupadi and Yudhisthir in the *Mahabharata*. Do you agree? Discuss with reference to the text.

Or

"Kaunteya loves to gamble but does not know how to play. If challenged, he will surely come." Critically comment on dicing and the institution of kingship in *Mahabharata*.

3. Discuss Kalidasa's play *Abhijnanasakuntalam* as one that focuses on "the tension between *kama* and *dharma*, desire and duty ..."

Or

Confronted by Shakuntala, Dushyant says, "Am I deluded, or is she false? This is the question: should I incur the blame of forsaking my own wife, or the stain of adultery, alas, with the wife of another?" Critically examine the character of Dushyant as the idealised "Royal Sage" in *Abhijnanasakuntalam*. 15

4. "Rejoicing over what the brahmin Matalan had said, the King offered grants to the temple of the immortal Pattini." Discuss the deification of Kannagi as a strategy to legitimise the institution of kingship in *Cilapattikaram*.

Or

Do you agree that 'The Book of Vanci' reflects the confluence and conflict of Sanskrit, Dravida and Jaina worldviews? Discuss, with special emphasis on the figure of Cenkuttuvan. 15