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S. No. of Question Paper : 1918

Unique Paper Code : 203663

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Name of the Paper : Modern Indian Literature : Poems and Short Stories

Name of the Course : English for B.A. (Hons.)/B.Sc. (Hons.) Math./

B.Sc. (Mathematical Science)

Semester : VI

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

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

Notes :— (i) **Part A** contains questions on the Plays and Novels. Attempt any *one* part of Question 1, with all its sub-sections (30 marks).

(ii) **Part B** contains three questions on Modern Indian Literature (Poems and Short Stories). Attempt all *three* questions from **Part B** (45 marks).

### Part A

1. Answer any *one* of the following :

(i) **Merchant of Venice** :

(a) Identify, contextualise, and critically comment upon the following lines :

All that glitters is not gold;

P.T.O.

Often have you heard that told:

Many a man his life has sold

But my outside to behold.

Gilded tombs do worms enfold

Had you been as wise as bold,

Young in limbs, in judgment old,

Your answer had not been enscroll'd

Fare you well: your suit is cold.'

*Or*

Write a short note on the friendship between Antonio and Bassanio. 10

- (b) Compare and contrast the characters of Jessica and Portia in *The Merchant of Venice*, particularly in the light of their respective upbringings.

*Or*

Justify Shylock's demand for revenge against Antonio in *The Merchant of Venice*. 20

(ii) **Mother Courage and her Children :**

- (a) Discuss the character of Mother Courage as a picture of suffering and endurance.

Or

Write a short note on the Thirty Years' War.

10

- (b) Bring out the function of running a business in the plot of *Mother Courage and Her Children*.

Or

Comment on Brecht's presentation of Katrin, particularly on the significance of her being dumb.

20

(iii) **Wuthering Heights :**

- (a) Critically comment on the following :

The countryside around *Wuthering Heights*

Or

Thruscross Grange at the end of the novel.

10

- (b) Discuss the narrative structure of *Wuthering Heights*.

Or

Discuss the theme of revenge in *Wuthering Heights* and the complex ways in which it is connected with love. 20

- (iv) **A Passage to India :**

- (a) Critically comment on :

The City of Chandrapore in the unfolding of *A Passage to India*.

Or

The Bridge party.

10

- (b) Do you agree with the view that both Mrs. Moore and Adela fail in their quest to know the "real" India ? Discuss.

Or

Bring out Foster's critique of the British and the British Empire in India. 20

**Part B**

(Attempt *All* questions from Part B)

2. Critically comment on the following lines :

- (a) A man walks on the bridge and gives away the change in his pocket to a beggar.  
He gives away his wristwatch to a nurse who happens to walk towards him. He  
throws his coat into the river and follows the coat into the water.

*Or*

- (b) When, finally, we reached the place,  
We hardly knew why we were there.  
The trip had darkened every face,  
Our deeds were neither great nor rare.  
Home is where we have to earn our grace.

10

3. (a) Discuss the central idea of Ambai's 'Squirrel'. Do you think the fear of being destroyed is as real today ?

*Or*

(b) Communalism and its resistance in the Mental Asylum highlights the forces of insanity outside. Discuss.

15

P.T.O.

4. (a) Premchand's 'Holy Panchayat' is both a critique as well as a reflection of rural India during the British Colonial period. Discuss.

*Or,*

- (b) Bring out the elements of Western influence on children in R. K. Narayan's 'The M.C.C.'.

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