

This question paper contains 4 printed pages.

458|

Your Roll No.

B.A. (Prog.) / I

B.

(T)

ENGLISH DISCIPLINE— Paper I

(The Individual and Society, An Anthology)

(Admissions of 2005/2006 and onwards in respect of
students of Regular Colleges/NCWEB)

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 75

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

NOTE:— *The maximum marks printed on the question paper are applicable for the students of the regular colleges (Cat. 'A'). These marks will, however, be scaled up proportionately in respect of the students of NCWEB at the time of posting of awards for compilation of result.*

Attempt all questions.

1. (A) Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow:

- (a) Panditji got out a rope. He made a noose and managed to get it over the dead man's feet and drew it tight. Morning mist still clouded the air. Panditji grabbed the rope and began to drag it, and he dragged it until

P. T. O.

it was out of the village. When he got back home he bathed immediately, read out prayers to Durga for purification and sprinkled Ganges water around the house.

- (i) Identify the author and the title of the story. Explain the context of these lines. 5
- (ii) Who is the 'dead man' and why is he being dragged out of the village? 5
- (iii) What do Panditji's prayers to Durga and cleansing rituals point at? 5

Or

(b) I was ashamed, really ashamed
My hand which had just touched the sky was
knocked down

I was silent

Toward the end of the meal you asked

What's this? Don't you serve buttermilk or
yoghurt with

the last course of rice?

- (i) Name the poem and the poet, and explain the context of these lines. 5
- (ii) Do the lines suggest a conflict between expectations and reality? 5
- (iii) What kind of self image of the speaker emerges from these lines? 5

(B) Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow:

(a) Columbus from his after-
 deck watched heights he hoped for
 rocks he dreamed, rise solid from my simple
 water
 Parrots screamed. Soon he would touch
 our land. His charted mind's desire
 The blue sky blessed the morning with its fire
 But did his vision
 fashion as he watched the shore
 the slaughter that his soldiers
 furthered here?

- (i) Name the poem and the poet and explain
 the context of these lines. 5
- (ii) Explain the line 'our land. His charted
 mind's desire'. 5
- (iii) Whose perspective is conveyed in these
 lines? 5

Or

(b) Or at least
 move to a rich white suburb, Summerfield
 or Fort Lee, with neighbors that will
 talk to us. Here while the film-songs still
 echo
 in the corridors and restrooms, we can trust
 in movie truths: sacrifice, success, love and
 luck,
 the America that was supposed to be.

- (i) Name the poem and the poet, and
 explain the context of these lines. 5

P. T. O.

- (ii) What is the significance of 'move to a rich white suburb'? 5
- (iii) How is the 'America that was supposed to be' related to 'movie truths'? 5

2. (a) Explain why most women get excluded from the historian's view of the past.

(Virginia Woolf: *Shakespeare's Sister*)

Or

- (b) Discuss the theme of the story 'Yellow Fish' by Ambai. 15

3. (a) What realities are contrasted in Henry Reed's 'Naming of the parts'? How do we see the contrast between life and death, between interior and exterior?

Or

- (b) Environmental degradation, war and exile are woven together to form the narrative pattern of Intizar Husain's 'A Chronicle of the Peacocks'. Discuss. 15

4. (a) The betrayal of the protagonist is made with expectations of 'rehabilitation'. Comment on the use of irony in the story when reality clashes with expectations.

Or

- (b) Not only does the American girl have a typical racist attitude to the West Indian boy in the story 'Blackout', but the latter too suffers from male chauvinism. Do you agree? 15