

Sl. No. of Ques. Paper : 5168

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Unique Paper Code : 203154

Name of Paper : **The Individual and Society : Essays, Stories and Poems**

Name of Course : **B.A. (Prog.) English Discipline**

Semester : **I**

Duration : **3 hours**

Maximum Marks : **75**

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

Attempt all questions.

Answer all three parts (A, B and C) of Question No. 1.

1. (A) Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow: 4

When I was eleven, after a beating
I took and smashed the ruler to a kindling
Fingering the splinters I could not believe
How could this rod prove weaker than me?

- (i) Identify the poem and the poet. 2
- (ii) Discuss the imagery of violence in the above lines. 3
- (iii) Comment on the poet's sense of empowerment expressed in the last line. 5

Or

She's not quite tall enough
and not quite full enough
(children will take care of that)
Her complexion it was decided
would compensate, being just about
the right shade
of rightness
to do justice to
Francisco X. Noronha Prabhu
good son of Mother Church.

- (i) Name the poem and the poet. 2
- (ii) Comment on the use of passive voice in these lines. 3

(iii) Comment on the theme of the treatment of women in these lines. 5

(B) Today you came over to dinner
for the first time
You not only came, you forgot your caste and came
Usually women don't forget that tradition of inequality
But you came with a mind large as the sky
to my pocket size house.

(i) Identify the poet and the poem of the above lines. 2

(ii) Why was the poet impressed by the friend's visit? 3

(iii) Comment on the figures of speech in the last line. 5

Or

Now I am old I know any
Mistake was my acknowledging
Of maps. The eyes raise tired monuments.

(i) Identify the poet and the poem. 2

(ii) Describe the narrator's hope to erase the existing demarcations and to outdate the history of the ancient monuments and her belief that the world should be explored afresh. 3

(iii) Comment critically on the given lines in about 100 words. 5

(C) 'Have you had anything to eat? Or are they just making you work without feeding you? Why don't you ask them for something?'

'How can you expect me to digest a Brahman's food, Chikhuri?'

'Digesting it is no problem, you have to get it first. He sits in there and eats like a king and then has a nice little nap after he tells you have to split his wood.'

The government officials may force you to work for them but they pay you something for it, no matter how little. This fellow's gone one better, calling himself a holy man.'

(i) Identify the story and the author. 2

(ii) Comment on Chikhuri's attitude towards Dukhi. 3

(iii) Is Chikhuri's criticism of the 'holy man' justified? Discuss. 5

Or

But she was not sent to school. She had no chance of learning grammar and logic let alone of reading Horace and Virgil. She picked up a book now and then, one of her brother's perhaps, and read a few pages. But then her parents came in and told her to mend the stockings or mind the stew and not moon about with books and papers.

- (i) Identify the passage and the author. 2
- (ii) Who is referred to as the 'brother'? What sort of career did he have? 3
- (iii) Comment on the attitude of the parents towards the girl. 5
2. Discuss Jotirao Phule's critical reaction to the Brahmins as oppressors of the Shudras with a few examples given by the writer himself in his 'Caste Laws'.

Or

Comment on the political and personal agenda of W.B. Yeats' poem 'A Prayer for my Daughter'. 15

3. Discuss Virginia Woolf's representation of the Elizabethan women and their misery in expressing themselves in terms of their writings and life in 'Shakespeare's Sister'.

Or

'The Exercise Book' highlights the emotions, thoughts, feelings and agony of a child Uma caught in the shackles of social prejudices. Analyze Tagore's conception of the shallow male dominating society and the subjugation of women. 15

4. Comment on Dukhi's victimization by the Brahmin as an example of discrimination on the basis of caste in Premchand's 'Deliverance'.

Or

Compare and contrast the attitudes of the poet and the visitor in Hira Bansode's 'Bosom Friend'. 15