

This question paper contains 8 printed pages]

Your Roll No.....

2621

B.A. (Programme)/I

D-I

(L)

ENGLISH DISCIPLINE—Paper I

(The Individual and Society, An Anthology)

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

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

Attempt All questions.

(A) Read the given lines and answer the questions that follow : 20

(a) The ideal image of the teachers that I saw in my childhood has remained indelibly imprinted on my memory. Whenever someone starts talking about a great guru, I remember all those teachers who used to swear about mothers and sisters. They used to fondle good-looking boys and invited them to their homes and sexually abused them.

P.T.O.

One day the headmaster Kaliram called me to his room and asked : 'Abey, what is your name ?'

'Omprakash,' I answered slowly and fearfully.

Children used to feel scared just encountering the headmaster. The entire school was terrified of him.

'Chuhre ka ?' Headmaster threw his second question at me.

'Ji'.

'All right.....See that teak tree there ? Go. Climb that tree. Break some twigs and make a broom.

And sweep the whole school clean as a mirror.

It is after all, your family occupation.

Go.....get to it.'

(i) Identify the text and the author and explain

the context.

(ii) Explain the irony in the expression 'a great guru' as experienced by the author in his childhood. 7

(iii) Explain how the headmaster's behaviour speaks of a social attitude. 8

Or

(b) Somehow or other they got through the night. But even in the morning no tanner came. They could still hear the wailing of the women. The stench was beginning to spread quite a bit. Panditji got out a rope. He made a noose and managed to get it over the dead man's feet and draw it tight. Morning mist still clouded the air. Panditji grabbed the rope and began to drag it,

and he dragged it until 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.

Out there in the field the jackals and kites, dogs

and crows were picking at Dukhi's body. This

was the reward of a whole life of devotion, service

and faith.

(i) Identify the text and the author and explain

the context.

5

(ii) Write a note on Panditji's character based

on the passage.

7

(iii) 'This was the reward of a whole life of

devotion, service and faith.' Elaborate. 8

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

follow :

20

(a) What happens to a dream deferred ?

Does it dry up

Like a raisin in the sun ?

Or fester like a sore—

And then run ?

Does it stink like rotten meat ?

Or crust and sugar over—

Like a syrupy sweet ?

May be it just sags

Like a heavy load.

Or does it explode ?

- (i) Identify the poem and the poet explain the context of its title. 5
- (ii) What 'dream' might the 'writer have in mind ? Explain. 7
- (iii) What possibilities are suggested by the various images in the poem ? 8

Or

- (b) It was a young man dressed in conventional shirt and pants, and wearing a pair of canvas shoes. That was what lent the suggestion of slinking to his movements, because he went along noiselessly—that, and the mere suggestion of a stoop. He was very tall. There was a curious look of hunger and unrest about his eyes. But the thing that struck her immediately was the fact that he was black; the other particulars scarcely

made any impression at all in comparison. In her country not everyday a white woman could be nonchalantly approached by a black man. There was enough novelty in all this to intrigue her.

(i) Identify the text and the author and explain the context. 5

(ii) The approach of the young man 'intrigues' the white young woman. Why ? 7

(iii) Explain the racist attitude of the young woman to the young man. 8

2. Write an essay on the significance of the exercise book in telling the story of Uma. 20

Or

Attempt a critical appreciation of the idea of gender in W.B. Yeats' poem 'A Prayer for My Daughter'.

3. Explain how the two poems 'Naming of Parts' and 'General, Your Tank is a Powerful Vehicle' comment on the insanity of war through irony and humour. 20

Or

'The Dog of Tetwal' is a symbolic story which conveys the madness and futility of war. Analyse the statement.

4. According to Roland Barthes, all the toys are 'essentially a microcosm of the adult world.' Do you agree ? Discuss. 20

Or

Write an essay on 'Zero-Sum Game' as a satire on globalization.