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Your Roll No.....

2661

B.A. (Programme)/I

D-II

(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.

1. (A) Read the given lines and answer the questions that

follow :

20

(a) Today when he came from the shrine in his house

he saw Dukhi the Untouchable tanner sitting there

with a bundle of grass. As soon as he caught sight

P.T.O.

of him Dukhi stood up, prostrated himself on the ground, stood up again and folded his hands. Seeing the Pandit's glorious figure his heart was filled with reverence. How godly a sight!—a rather short, roly-poly fellow with a bald, shiny skull, chubby cheeks and eyes aglow with brahmanical energy. The sandalwood markings bestowed on him the aspect of the gods.

- (i) Identify the text, author and explain the context. 5
- (ii) Do you think the writer uses irony by associating the Pandit with godly aspects ? Explain. 7
- (iii) Explain how Dukhi's reverence for the brahmanical system results in his tragic fate. 8

Or

(b) But you came with a mind large as the sky to my
pocket size house

I thought you had ripped out all those caste things

You came bridging that chasm that divides us

Truly, friend I was really happy

With the naïve devotion of *Shabari* I arranged the
food on your plate

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

(ii) Who was *Shabari* ? What does the speaker mean
by naïve devotion ? Explain. 7

(iii) What does the author mean by “chasm that
divides us” ? Elaborate. 8

P.T.O.

toys which disappear behind the hernia of broken
spring.

- (i) Identify the text, author and explain the
context. 5
- (ii) Explain how the writer favours the natural over
the artificial in this passage. 7
- (iii) The writer refers the wooden toys described here
to the modern toys described earliest in the
essay. Explain, why. 8

Or

(b) 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

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

(a) Wood removes, from all the forms which it supports, the wounding quality of angles which are too sharp, the chemical coldness of metal. When the child handles it and knocks it, it neither vibrates nor grates, it has a sound at once muffled and sharp. It is a familiar and poetic substance, which does not sever the child from close contact with the tree, the table, the floor. Wood does not wound or break down, it does not shatter; it wears out, it can last a longer time, live with the child, alter little by little the relations between the object and the hand. If it dies, it is in dwindling, not in swelling out like those mechanical

the slaughter that his soldiers

furthered here ?

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

(ii) Comment on the brutality of colonisation which is reflected in these lines. 7

(iii) This poem gives voice to the voiceless, records the untold story of the trauma of the colonised people. Do you agree ? Elaborate. 8

2. Show how the imaginary figure of Judith poignantly portrays the plight of a woman in a patriarchal society in "Shakespeare's Sister". 20

Or

Comment on the significance and the symbolic value of the exercise book in Tagore's "The Exercise Book".

3. Explain how Wole Soyinka's "Telephone Conversation" records the painful experience of the dark-skinned people in a racist society. 20

Or

Comment on the significance of the title of Nadine Gordimer's "Jump".

4. Describe Manto's "The Dog of Tetwal" as an anti-war story. 20

Or

Compare the different aspects of the protest against war in Millay's "Conscientious Objector" and Brecht's "General, Your Tank".