

[This question paper contains 6 printed pages.]

7523

Your Roll No. ....

B.A. (Programme)/I

E-I

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:

(a) Lipstick coated, long gold-rolled

Cigarette-holder tipped. Caught I was, foully.

“HOW DARK?” ...I had not misheard ...

“ARE YOU LIGHT

OR VERY DARK?”

P.T.O.

Button B. Button A. Stench

Of rancid breath of public hide-and-speak.

- (i) Name the poem and the poet and explain the context of these lines. (6)
- (ii) Who asks 'How Dark' and 'Are you Light or very Dark',? What is the implication of these questions? (7)
- (iii) What estimation does the poet make about the lady? (7)

**OR**

(b) I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,

Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.

Leaving behind nights of terror and fear

I rise

Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear

I rise

- (i) Name the poem and the poet and explain the context of these lines. (6)

(ii) Who is the poet addressing in these lines?  
What kind of 'oppression' does she refer to? (7)

(iii) Explain how the metaphor 'Black Ocean'  
conveys an impression of energy. (7)

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

(a) And this you can see is the bolt. The purpose of  
this

Is to open the breech, as you see. We can slide  
it

Rapidly backwards and forwards: we call this

Easing the spring. And rapidly backwards and  
forwards

The early bees are assaulting and fumbling the  
flowers:

They call it easing the Spring.

(i) Name the poem and the poet and explain the  
context of these lines. (6)

- (ii) What realities are contrasted in the poem?  
(7)
- (iii) Explain what is meant by 'easing the Spring'.  
(7)

**OR**

- (b) Terrified the dog turned the other way—one of its legs had become useless. It had just about managed to drag itself a few steps in the other direction on three legs, when Jamadar Harnam Singh aimed and fired. The dog fell dead on the spot.

Subedar Himmat Khan expressed regret, "Teh teh ..... the poor thing became a amartyr!"

Jamadar Harnam Singh took the warm Brrrel of the gun in his hand and said, 'He died a dog' s death.'

- (i) Identify the story and its writer and explain the context. (6)
- (ii) Why is the dog 'terrified'? What does the gruesome death of the animal symbolize? (7)

(iii) Why does the dog's death evoke mixed reactions from the soldiers on both the sides?  
(7)

2. (a) Discuss Bibhas Sen's story 'Zero Sum Game' as a satire on modern rulers and the games they play with common people. (20)

**OR**

(b) Discuss how Imtiaz Dharker has portrayed nostalgia and remembrance in her poem. 'At the Lahore Karhai' to examine the cultural patterns that are emerging in the new global situation.

3. (a) A.K.Ramanujan's 'Highway Stripper' explores gender as a fluid category. Could the poem be seen as an expression of the desire for androgyny?  
(20)

**OR**

(b) How does 'Girl' portray the conditioning of girls in a patriarchal society?

4. (a) Omprakash Valmiki makes a deliberate use of an angry style and abusive language to challenge the social attitudes towards the Dalits. Comment.

(20)

**OR**

- (b) Contrast the characters of Dukhi and Chikuri in the story 'Deliverance' by Premchand.