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S. No. of Question Paper : 3726

Unique Paper Code : 62031101

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Name of the Paper : Individual and Society

Name of the Course : B.A. (Programme) 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.

1. Answer any *three* of the following passages : 3×10=30

(a) Frowning the Panditayin said, 'You've become so wrapped up in your books and astrological charts that you've forgotten all about caste rules. If there's tanner or a washerman or a birdcatcher why he can just come walking right into the house as though he owned it. You'd think it was an inn and not a decent Hindu's house. Tell that good-for nothing to get out or I'll scorch his face with firebrand.

(i) Identify the passage and the author. 2

(ii) Contextualize the above written extract. 3

(iii) Describe why Panditayin is angry about the tanner coming inside her house ? 5

Or

That, more or less, is how the story would run, I think, if a woman in Shakespeare's day had Shakespeare's genius. But for my part, I agree with the deceased bishop, if

P.T.O.

such he was—it is unthinkable that any woman in Shakespeare's day should have had Shakespeare's genius. For genius like Shakespeare's is not born among labouring, uneducated, servile people. It was not born in England among the Saxons and the Britons. It is not born today among the working classes. How, then, could it have been born among women whose work began, according to Professor Trevelyan, almost before they were out of the nursery, who were forced to it by their parents and held to it by all power of laws and customs?

- (i) Identify the passage and the author and also write the context in 50 words. 5
- (ii) How do you think Virginia Woolf is strongly debating on the position of working class women in the chapter? 5

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

I was ashamed, really ashamed

My hand which had just touched the sky was knocked down

I was silent.

- (i) Identify the poem and the poet. 2
- (ii) Why had the speaker felt elated? 3
- (iii) What caused the Speaker to be disappointed? 5

*Or*

An intellect hatred is the worst,

So let her think opinions are accursed.

Have I not seen the loveliest woman born

Out of the mouth of Plenty's horn

Because of her opinionated mind

Barter that horn and every good.

- (i) Identify the poem and the poet. 2
- (ii) Who does the poet refer to as the loveliest woman born and what is the mouth of plenty ? 3
- (iii) Why does the poet express reservations about a woman having intellectual abilities ? 5
- (c) My first political act ? I am seeing  
Two doors that usually stood open,  
Leaning together like gossips,  
Making a closet of their corner.
- (i) Identify the poet and the poem. 2
- (ii) Explain the context of the above lines. 3
- (iii) What is the first political act that the poem begins with and why is it called that ? 5

Or

Have you had anything to eat ? Or are they just making you work without feeding you ? How can you expect me to digest a Brahmin's food Chikuri ? "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 the wood.

- (i) Identify the writer and the short story. 2
- (ii) Why is Dukhi reluctant to seek food from the Pandit in whose house he has been working since morning ? 3
- (iii) Show the contrast between Chikuri and Dookhi and discuss why the former does not succumb to extreme slavery like Dukhi. 5

2. Answer the following in around **250** words each : 3×15=45

- (a) Is the slavery to which the Sudras are reduced a mental subjugation as well as a physical one as depicted in *Caste Laws* by Jotirao Phule ? 15

*Or*

Analyse the title of the poem 'Bosom Friends' by Hira Bausode.

- (b) How far would it be correct to say that Ambai's story *Yellow Fish*, concerns an experience specific to a woman's body ? 15

*Or*

What are Woolf's ideas about Shakespeare's sister and how does it reflect on the status of women ?

- (c) Discuss the factors that affect the family's decision to accept Kallu as a bridegroom in Ismat Chughtai's "Kallu". 15

*Or*

Explain the use of imagery in the story 'The Exercise Book' that speaks about the condition of women in Bengal.