

U.G. 6th Semester Examination 2022

ENGLISH (Honours)

Paper Code : 603 ENGH - DSE - 3 A & B

(CBCS)

Full Marks : 32

Time : Two Hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.
Candidates are required to give their answers
in their own words as far as practicable.*

DSE - 3 A

(Literature of Indian Diaspora)

1. Answer the following questions in about 200 words each : 6×4=24

- (a) How does Bharati Mukherjee explore the problems of emigration and assimilation, on both physical and psychological levels, in *Jasmine*? Argue your answer with adequate textual illustrations.

Or,

- (b) Critically comment on Bharati Mukherjee's treatment of the historical and political context of India, and the representation of the complex workings of postcolonial and neocolonial forces in *Jasmine*.
- (c) Bring out the significance of the title of M.G. Vassanji's *A Place Within: Rediscovering India*.

Or,

- (d) Evaluate M.G. Vassanji's *A Place Within: Rediscovering India* as a tale of repatriation in search of roots.
- (e) How does Agha Shahid Ali explore nostalgia for his homeland Kashmir? Answer with reference to the poems on your syllabus.

Or,

- (f) Attempt a close-reading of Agha Shahid Ali's poem "Leaving Sonora".

[P.T.O.]

- (g) Drawing proper textual instantiations from the short stories on your syllabus discuss how Rohinton Mistry represents the ethnic culture of the Parsi community.

Or,

- (h) Critically comment upon Kersi's problems of adjustment and acceptability as a migrant in Canada in the short story 'Swimming Lessons'.

2. Answer the following questions in about 60 words each :

2×4=8

- (a) Why does Darrel Lutz commit suicide? Does it suggest that the pursuit of 'American dream' may be fatal sometimes?

Or,

- (b) What is the symbolic significance of 'the hogs' in Bharati Mukherjee's *Jasmine*?

- (c) Write a short note on the importance of the traditions of Ismaili-Khoja Community to nurture and nourish India's syncretic faith.

Or,

- (d) Is it justified to say that M.G. Vassanji has a deep obsession with history? Substantiate your response with reference to some of the historical events that *A Place Within: Rediscovering India* touches upon.

- (e) Comment briefly on the allusions Agha Shahid Ali used in his poem, 'The Season of the Plains.'

Or,

- (f) Locate and explain :

"...he froze women in his embrace."

- (g) Write a short note on the paranormal incident that Jacqueline, the protagonist encounters in the short story 'The Ghost of Firozsha Baag'.

Or,

- (h) What symbolic purposes do the titular words 'white hairs' and 'cricket' serve in the short story 'Of White Hairs and Cricket'?

(Partition Literature)

1. Answer the following questions in about 200 words each : 6×4=24

- (a) Critically comment on the significance of the plot-structure in Jyotirmoyee Devi's novel *The River Churning* (*Epar Ganga Opar Ganga*).

Or,

- (b) Comment on Jyotirmoyee Devi's portrayal of the character of Sutara.
(c) Examine *Basti* as a narrative encapsulating a journey across modalities of space and time.

Or,

- (d) How does *Basti* bring about an interweaving of myth and history? Answer with reference to the text.
(e) Attempt a critical study of "Alam's Own House" as a commingling of elements of memory and longing.

Or,

- (f) Comment on the contingencies of gender in Manik Bandyopadhyay's "The Final Solution".
(g) Write a critical analysis of "Partition" by W. H. Auden.

Or,

- (h) How are the anxieties and hopes of the poet mirrored in "For Your Lanes, My Country"? Answer with special reference to the text.

2. Answer the following questions in about 60 words each : 2×4=8

- (a) What role does Amulya Basu play in *The River Churning*?

Or,

- (b) Briefly comment on the significance of the ending of *The River Churning*.
(c) What is the significance of the Cain and Abel motif in *Basti*? Explain briefly.

Or,

- (d) Which books were mentioned by Zakir in his diary, and why?
- (e) Who or what is "Toba Tek Singh" in Sadat Hasan Manto's story? What is the significance of this name?

Or,

- (f) Comment briefly on the opening of "Two Women One Family".
- (g) Locate and explain: "with a limp map half-flying from a shock-stiffened hand"

Or,

- (h) What is the significance of the imagery surrounding the little girl Bhuri? Answer briefly with reference to the text.
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