

2022

5th Semester Examination

ENGLISH (Honours)

Paper : C 11-T

Postcolonial Literatures

[CBCS]

Full Marks : 60

Time : Three Hours

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

1. Answer any *ten* of the following questions : 2×10=20

- (a) Why does the poet call the vineyards 'violent and dangerous' in "The Way Spain Was"?
- (b) Why does the poet call Spain 'proletarian' in "The Way Spain Was"?
- (c) Explain the line "Love is so short, forgetting is so long" in your own words.
- (d) Why do you think Neruda constantly repeats the word "tonight"? What is he trying to imply about his state of mind through this?
- (e) "I who am poisoned with the blood of both"—

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Who is the speaker here? What does the speaker mean by 'blood of both'?

- (f) "Delirious as these worried beasts"— Who are called the 'worried beasts'? Why are they called 'delirious'?
- (g) Why do the small towns always remind the poet of death in the poem "Small Towns and the River"?
- (h) What is the meaning of 'chance syllable' in "The Voice of the Mountain" ?
- (i) What is the source of the title of *Things Fall Apart* ?
- (j) What causes Okonkwo's exile from Umuofia ?
- (k) How does Ikemefuna become Okonkwo's adopted son ?
- (l) What is the contrast between Dikeledi and Kebonye ?
- (m) Why are the women impressed with Dikeledi in "The Collector of Treasures"?
- (n) What does the winning of Adjoa signify in "The Girl Who Can"?
- (o) Describe briefly the significance of the legs in "The Girl Who Can".

2. Answer any *four* of the following questions : $5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) How does Walcott compare Man to Nature in "A Far Cry from Africa"?
- (b) Critically discuss in brief Neruda's use of history as a theme in "The Way Spain Was".
- (c) Why and how Dikeledi murders her husband in "The Collector of Treasures"?
- (d) Who is the Collector of Treasures? Why is she called so ?
- (e) Critically describe the narrator of the story "The Girl Who Can".
- (f) Comment on Nwoye's conversion to Christianity in Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*.

3. Answer any *two* of the following questions : $10 \times 2 = 20$

- (a) Critically analyse Derek Walcott's treatment of split identity and anxiety in the poem "A Far Cry from Africa".
 - (b) How does Mamang Dai present a picture of life and mortality in the poem "Small Towns and the River" ?
 - (c) Can *Things Fall Apart* be described as the tragedy of Okonkwo? Answer with textual references.
- P.T.O.

- (d) How does Ama Ata Aidoo depict the conflict of space for women in the social domain in her short story "The Girl Who Can"? Discuss.
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2022

5th Semester Examination

ENGLISH (Honours)

Paper : C 12-T

Women's Writing

[CBCS]

Full Marks : 60

Time : Three Hours

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

1. Answer any *ten* of the following questions : $2 \times 10 = 20$

- ✓ (a) Whom does the speaker compare her father to in Sylvia Plath's poem "Daddy"? How are the two phenomena similar?
- ✓ (b) How has the speaker in Plath's "Daddy" tried to free herself from her father?
- ✓ (c) Bring out the connotation of the word "Sexton" in Emily Dickinson's "I cannot live with you"?
- (d) Explain the phrase: "A newer Sevres pleases - / Old Ones crack -".
- ✓ (e) Explain the phrase "other state" in Emily Dickinson's "I'm wife; I've finished that".

(f) What does the speaker indicate about a girl's life behind the "soft Eclipse"?

(g) What, according to Eunice De Souza, do lovers make of women?

(h) What does the speaker mean by "to die alone" in "Advice to Women"? Why does she say so?

(i) Describe the moment when Dopdi is captured in Mahasweta Devi's *Droupadi*.

(j) Explain the metaphor of 'operation' in Mahasweta Devi's *Droupadi*.

(k) In what context the reference to 'Prospero' appears in Mahasweta Devi's *Droupadi*?

(l) Do you think that the hyperbole in Plath's "Daddy" about Hitler and Dracula is justifiable?

(m) Why does Sethe kill Beloved in Toni Morrison's *Beloved*?

(n) How did Paul D get his freedom in Toni Morrison's *Beloved*?

(o) In Morrison's *Beloved*, why does Beloved haunt the house at 124?

2. Answer any **four** of the following questions: $5 \times 4 = 20$

(a) Explain the thematic significance of mothers and daughters in the novel, *Beloved*.

- (b) Write a note on the character of Dopdi Mejhen in Mahasweta Devi's *Droupadi*.
- (c) How does Sylvia Plath's poem "Daddy" depict a divided self?
- (d) Comment on the structure of Eunice De Souza's poem, "Advice to Women".
- (e) What are the literary devices used in Emily Dickinson's poem, "I'm wife; I've finished that —"?
- (f) Write a note on the nature of the plight and exploitation of the Mahar community as you find in Baby Kamble's *Our Wretched Life*.

3. Answer any *two* of the following : 10×2=20

- (a) How does Mahasweta Devi's *Droupadi* portray the resurrection of the subalterns?
 - (b) Comment on the ending of Toni Morrison's *Beloved*. Is it really the story "not" to "pass on"? — Discuss.
 - (c) Do you consider Rassundari Debi's *Amar Jiban* a feminist text? Substantiate your view.
 - (d) Write a note on significance of the title of Toni Morrison's *Beloved*.
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5th Semester Examination

ENGLISH (Honours)

Paper : DSE 1-T

Nineteenth Century European Realism

[CBCS]

Full Marks : 60

Time : Three Hours

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

1. Answer any *ten* questions : 2×10=20

(a) Name the journal where *Crime and Punishment* was first published along with the year of publication.

(b) Who is Porfiry Petrorich? What method does he use to force Raskolnikov to confess?

(c) Why is Raskolnikov immediately opposed to the marriage of his sister to Luzhin in Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment*?

(d) Mention any trait of nihilism in the character of Raskolnikov.

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- (e) Does Alyona's act of wearing two crosses establish her as a pious woman?
- (f) Why does Raskolnikov kill Lizaveta?
- (g) How did Raskolnikov defend his action of murdering Alyona?
- (h) Name a prominent Slavophile littérateur with an important work by the same.
- (i) What is the significance of the "Philosophical Letter" by Pëtr Chaadaev in the dispute of supremacy between the Slavophiles and the Westernizers?
- (j) To which literary genre does *Madame Bovary* belong? Apart from Flaubert name any two exponents of this genre.
- (k) How does Emma's father signal to Charles that Emma has accepted his proposal in *Madame Bovary*?
- (l) Who leads Emma into financial ruin and how?
- (m) What does literary realism mean in the context of *Madame Bovary*?
- (n) Who is Guillaumin? Why does Emma visit him?
- (o) Who is Rodolphe? Where does he first flirt with Emma?

2. Answer any *four* questions :

5×4=20

- (a) Write a short note on Raskolnikov's self-imposed alienation from society.
- (b) How does the 'Hay Market' in St. Petersburg pave the way for the redemption of Raskolnikov ?
- (c) How Dunya (Avdotya Romanovna Raskolnikov) is different from her brother?
- (d) Comment on the symbol of the 'blind beggar' in *Madame Bovary*.
- (e) How are Léon Dupuis and Emma Bovary trapped in their own romantic dreams ?
- (f) What is the symbolic function of the windows in *Madame Bovary* ?

3. Answer any *two* questions :

10×2=20

- (a) Discuss the presentation of God and religion throughout *Crime and Punishment* and explain how the epilogue contributes to this presentation. How is the Biblical story of Lazarus related to Raskolnikov ?
- (b) Critically reflect on the importance of the city to the plot of *Crime and Punishment*.

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- ✓(c) Discuss the fantasies that motivate Emma and cause her unhappiness. In what way are they unrealistic? What do they indicate about her personality?
- ✓(d) Discuss the attitude of Flaubert towards the middle-class society he is describing. Use illustrations from the novel to support your view.
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2022

5th Semester Examination

ENGLISH (Honours)

Paper : DSE 2-T

World Literatures

[CBCS]

Full Marks : 60

Time : Three Hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

*Candidates are required to give their answers
in their own words as far as practicable.*

1. Answer any *ten* of the following questions : $2 \times 10 = 20$

(a) Who is Father Huismans? What type of things does he collect?

(b) What is the symbolic significance of the river in Naipaul's *A Bend in the River*?

(c) Who is the Big Man in Naipaul's *A Bend in the River*? How did he influence Salim's fortune?

(d) Whose shop did Salim buy? What are the things Salim would sell in his shop?

(e) When was Naipaul's *A Bend in the River* published? What country is it about?

- (f) What is the function of storytelling as posited by the narrator in Julio Cortazar's "Blow-up"?
- (g) What is the significance of the opening line of Julio Cortazar's "Blow-up" ?
- (h) Who is the narrator of Julio Cortazar's "Blow-up"? What was he translating as he developed the photograph ?
- (i) What do the clouds and pigeons symbolise in Julio Cortazar's "Blow-up"?
- (j) What is the narrative point-of-view in Julio Cortazar's "Blow-up" ?
- (k) Why do you think the poet feels that the "chant is broken" ?
- (l) What is 'corroboree'?
- (m) What is referred to as the "ancient curse" by the poet?
- (n) What does the poet mean by "a sightless shadow"?
- (o) Mention some symbols used in Wright's "Bora Ring".

2. Answer any *four* of the following questions : $5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) Critically evaluate the portrayal of Salim in Naipaul's *A Bend in the River*.
- (b) Critically comment on the theme of dislocation and relocation in Naipaul's *A Bend in the River*.
- (c) Briefly discuss the ending of Julio Cortazar's "Blow-up".
- (d) Critically comment on the appropriateness of the title of Julio Cortazar's "Blow-up".
- (e) "...and the tribal story lost in an alien tale."
— What does the poet try to convey here?
- (f) Critically comment on the allusion to Cain in Wright's "Bora Ring".

3. Answer any *two* of the following questions : $10 \times 2 = 20$

- (a) Would you consider Naipaul's *A Bend in the River* a postcolonial novel ? Substantiate your answer.
- (b) Naipaul's *A Bend in the River* is a meandering trail of reconciliation of the self and the world. Discuss.
- (c) In Julio Cortazar's "Blow-up", perspective is central to recording and translating reality. Discuss.

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- (d) Judith Wright's "Bora Ring" is a lamentation about the loss of culture after European settlement.

Discuss.