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5 SEM TDC ENG M 4

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(November)

ENGLISH

(Major)

Course : 504

(Indian Writing in English)

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32/24

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. Choose the correct option of any *eight* from the following : 1×8=8

(a) Commenting on the growth of Indian literature, who said, "India, a withered trunk..... suddenly shot out with foreign foliage."

- (i) Sri Aurobindo
- (ii) F. W. Bain
- (iii) Toru Dutt
- (iv) Raja Ram Mohan Roy

(b) "These lyrics..... display in their thought a world I have dreamt of all my life long." Whose comment is this on Rabindranath Tagore's *Gitanjali*?

(i) T. S. Eliot

(ii) D. H. Lawrence

(iii) W. B. Yeats

(iv) Thomas Hardy

(c) Whom did Rabindranath Tagore describe as 'the inaugurator of the modern age in India'?

(i) Mahatma Gandhi

(ii) Jawaharlal Nehru

(iii) Raja Ram Mohan Roy

(iv) Dadabhai Naoroji

(d) "I have come so near life that its fires have burnt me." Whose words are these?

(i) Toru Dutt

(ii) Sri Aurobindo

(iii) Mulk Raj Anand

(iv) Sarojini Naidu

- (e) Whom did Mahatma Gandhi hail as 'The Great Sentinel'?
- (i) Rabindranath Tagore
 - (ii) Sri Aurobindo
 - (iii) Sarojini Naidu
 - (iv) R. K. Narayan
- (f) Which one of the following is **not** a composition of Rabindranath Tagore?
- (i) *Gitanjali*
 - (ii) *Stray Bird*
 - (iii) *The Fugitive*
 - (iv) *Savitri*
- (g) What is the father in the poem, *Night of the Scorpion*?
- (i) A realist
 - (ii) Sceptic rationalist
 - (iii) An existentialist
 - (iv) An absurdist
- (h) Who is the storyteller in the novel, *Kanthapura*?
- (i) Achakka, a Brahmin widow
 - (ii) A policeman
 - (iii) A British officer
 - (iv) A toddy seller

- (i) Out of the four, who is **not** a character in Raja Rao's *Kanthapura*?
- (i) Ratna
 - (ii) Ramayya
 - (iii) Venkamma
 - (iv) Rama
- (j) In which poem is there a mention of the last Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb?
- (i) *The Last of the Princes*
 - (ii) *Night of the Scorpion*
 - (iii) *Gulzaman's Son*
 - (iv) *Hunger*

UNIT—I

(**History of Indian Writing in English**)

2. Answer any *one* of the following : 10
- (a) Prepare a note on the 19th century Renaissance in India. 10
 - (b) Write a descriptive note on Sarojini Naidu or Kamala Das' contribution to the poetry in Indian English literature. 10
 - (c) Present an evaluation of the contribution of either R. K. Narayan or Mulk Raj Anand to the development of novel in Indian English literature. 10

- (d) Write short notes on any *two* of the following : 5×2=10
- (i) Kamala Markandaya
 - (ii) Bhabani Bhattacharya
 - (iii) Mahatma Gandhi's political prose
 - (iv) Toru Dutt
 - (v) Sri Aurobindo

UNIT—II

(Fiction)

3. Answer any *one* of the following : 4
- (a) Briefly describe the Satyagraha at the toddy booth.
 - (b) Present a brief character sketch of either Bade Khan or Range Gowda.
 - (c) Present a brief note on the narrator in the novel, *Kanthapura*.
4. Answer any *one* of the following : 14
- (a) "*Kanthapura* is a veritable grammar of the Gandhian myth—a myth that is but a poetic translation of the reality. It will always have a central place in Gandhi literature." Discuss.
 - (b) Critically assess the character of Moorthy of *Kanthapura*.
 - (c) Comment on the narrative style of *Kanthapura*.

UNIT—III

(Non-fictional Narrative)

5. Answer any *one* of the following : 10
- (a) Describe in your own words Seth's stay in the town of Turfan from your reading of *From Heaven Lake*.
 - (b) Give an account of Seth's journey to Nepal and the episode of his confrontation with the custom officer.
 - (c) Describe the two unlikely events that helped Vikram Seth obtain the permission to visit Lhasa.

UNIT—IV

(Poetry)

6. Answer any *two* of the following : 12×2=24
- (a) Nissim Ezekiel's *Night of the Scorpion* reflects the multiplicity and inherently contradictory belief system prevalent among Indian masses. Discuss.
 - (b) Present a critical appreciation of the poem, *Gulzaman's Son*.

- (c) Present an account of the sordid state of affairs of the erstwhile royalty of India after independence as described in the poem, *The Last of the Princes*.
- (d) Analyze critically Jayanta Mahapatra's *Hunger*.
7. Explain, with reference to the context, any two of the following : 5×2=10
- (a) His ewe snuggles up to him and bleats
recognition, a thin tremolo of love
blanketed by gutturals of pain.
- (b) Silence gripped my sleeves; his body clawed
at the froth
his old nets had only dragged up
from the seas.
- (c) Father, uncles, seven
folklore brothers, sister so young, so lovely
the snakes loved her and hung dead,
ancestral
lovers from her ceiling; brother's many
wives, their unborn still born
babies, numberless
cousins, royal mynahs and parrots
in the harem.
- (d) Parting with his poison—flash of diabolic
tail in the dark room—
he risked the rain again.
