

Total No. of Printed Pages—4

5 SEM TDC DSE ENG (CBCS) 2 (H)

2025

(Nov/Dec)

ENGLISH

(Discipline Specific Elective)

(For Honours)

Paper : DSE-2

(**Literature of the Indian Diaspora**)

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32

Time : 3 hours

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

UNIT—I

1. Answer any one of the following : 15

(a) Examine the portrayal of identity and the search for belonging in the novel, *The Book of Secrets*.

(b) Critically analyze the presentation of history in M. G. Vassanji's *The Book of Secrets*.

(2)

(c) Discuss the significance of the journal as a narrative device and the ways in which it connects the different time periods and perspectives within the novel, *The Book of Secrets*.

2. Answer any one of the following : 5

(a) Discuss the significance of the epilogue in the novel, *The Book of Secrets*.

(b) Sketch the character of Pipa or Meenu.

UNIT—II

3. Answer any one of the following : 15

(a) Discuss the significance of the title of the novel, *A Fine Balance*.

(b) Examine the treatment of themes such as oppression, resistance, and the search for dignity and autonomy in the novel, *A Fine Balance*.

(c) Consider the rôle of family, both biological and found in the lives of the characters in *A Fine Balance* and how it shapes their experiences and identities.

4. Answer any one of the following : 5

(a) Write a short note on *A Fine Balance* as a diasporic novel.

(b) Sketch the character of Dina or Maneck.

(3)

UNIT—III

5. Answer any one of the following : 15

(a) Discuss the role of race and cultural identity in the novel, *Anita and Me*. How do Meena and her family navigate their British Indian identity in the small English village?

(b) Analyze the portrayal of gender and gender roles in *Anita and Me*. How do Meena's experiences differ from those of the male characters?

(c) Discuss the theme of coming-of-age in *Anita and Me*. In what ways does Meena mature and grow throughout the narrative?

6. Answer any one of the following : 5

(a) Write a brief note on the use of symbolism in Meera Syal's novel, *Anita and Me*.

(b) Present a character sketch of Meena or Anita of Meera Syal's novel, *Anita and Me*.

UNIT—IV

7. Answer any one of the following : 15

(a) Discuss how Jhumpa Lahiri treats the theme of alienation in her novel, *The Namesake*.

(b) Trace the development of the relationship between Gogol and his parents over the course of the novel, *The Namesake*. How does it evolve as Gogol matures and finds his own identity?

(c) Discuss the significance of names and naming in *The Namesake*. How do the characters' names reflect their cultural identities and experiences?

8. Answer any one of the following :

5

(a) Write a brief note on Gogol's relationship with Ruth or Maxine Ratliff.

(b) Write a brief character-sketch of Ashoke or Ashima Ganguli.
