

Total No. of Printed Pages—7

2 SEM TDC ENGH (CBCS) C 3

2 0 2 3

(May/June)

ENGLISH

(Core)

Paper : C-3

(Indian Writing in English)

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32

Time : 3 hours

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

UNIT—I

1. (a) R. K. Narayan's writing is essentially characterized by humour and gentle irony. Discuss Narayan's *The English Teacher* in the light of the given statement.

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UNIT—I

1. (a) R. K. Narayan's writing is essentially characterized by humour and gentle irony. Discuss Narayan's *The English Teacher* in the light of the given statement.

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(2)

Or

(b) The mundane and the spiritual confront and finally fuse into each other in R. K. Narayan's *The English Teacher*. Attempt a critical reflection on the statement.

2. (a) Give a brief sketch of the headmaster's character from *The English Teacher*. 5

Or

(b) How would you interpret Krishnan's abhorrence of Western education in *The English Teacher* ?

UNIT—II

3. Answer either (a) or (b) :

(a) (i) Critically examine how Anita Desai's *In Custody* dramatizes the language politics in India and the disappearance of Urdu from public spaces. 15

Or

(ii) Make an assessment of the portrayal of the major women characters in Anita Desai's *In Custody*.

(3)

(b) (i) Discuss how Mitra Phukan's *The Collector's Wife* probes into the feminine experiences in terms of gender, identity, language, ethnicity and dispossession. 15

Or

(ii) Attempt a critical study of Mitra Phukan's treatment of the theme of violence in *The Collector's Wife*.

4. Answer either (a) or (b) :

(a) (i) Attempt a brief sketch of Nur Shahjahanabadi's character from *In Custody*. 5

Or

(ii) Write a short note on the use of symbolism in Anita Desai's *In Custody*.

(b) (i) Show how Mitra Phukan unravels the deep-seated patriarchal bias existing in the society in *The Collector's Wife*. 5

(4)

Or

- (ii) Comment on the symbolic significance of the District Collector's British-era hilltop bungalow overlooking the cremation ground in Mitra Phukan's *The Collector's Wife*.

UNIT—III

5. Answer either (a) or (b) :

- (a) (i) "Don't write in English, they said, English is not your mother tongue." With reference to Kamala Das' *An Introduction*, reflect on the predicament of Indian English writer. 15

Or

- (ii) Nissim Ezekiel's *The Night of the Scorpion* offers several perspectives to the Indian way of life. Make a critical assessment of the poem in the light of the given statement.

(5)

- (b) (i) To the slave in H. L. V. Derozio's *Freedom to the Slave*, freedom is only a wishful dream; he lacks the agency to change his condition himself and must wait for a saviour. Critically examine the passivity and subservience in his attitude. 15

Or

- (ii) What picture of the 19th century Indian society emerges from your reading of H. L. V. Derozio's *The Orphan Girl*? Justify your answer.

6. Explain with reference to the context (any one) : 5

- (a) "My love, how can I explain that I abominate laws which punish a man for his past, only the night seems to understand that we must bear it again."
- (b) "When, finally, we reached the place, We hardly knew why we were there. The trip had darkened every face, Our deeds were neither great nor rare. Home is where we have to earn our grace."

(6)

- (c) "How often I think of going
There, to peer through blind eyes of
 windows or
Just listen to the frozen air,
Or in wild despair, pick an armful of
Darkness to bring it here to lie
Behind my bedroom door like a brooding
Dog..."

UNIT—IV

7. Answer either (a) or (b) :

- (a) (i) The institution of marriage means different things to men and women—for a man marriage is a means to acquire control over the woman's body whereas for a woman, it is the beginning of life with a new person whom she wants to be friends with. Discuss Shashi Deshpande's short story, 'The Intrusion' in the light of the given statement.

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Or

- (ii) Critically examine how the institution of marriage is deconstructed in Shashi Deshpande's short story, 'The Intrusion'.

(7)

- (b) (i) Critically comment on the significance of the title of the short story, 'The Wilted Flower' by Arup Kumar Dutta.

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Or

- (ii) Do you agree with the view that Arup Kumar Dutta's short story, 'The Wilted Flower' gives a realistic portrayal of the travails of the common people of India? Give a reasoned answer.

8. Answer any one of the following :

5

- (a) Write a short note on the use of the mock heroic style in Mulk Raj Anand's 'The Two Lady Rams'.
- (b) Write briefly on the significance of the radio in the short story titled 'The Free Radio' by Salman Rushdie.
