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3 SEM TDC ENG G 1 (A)

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(December)

ENGLISH

(General)

(Arts)

Course : 301

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 24

Time : 3 hours

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

1. Answer any *four* of the following (*two* each
from Unit-I and Unit-II) : 10×4=40

(A : Poetry)

UNIT—I

- (a) Discuss how the difference of idea and attitude to death between the cottage girl and the speaker is highlighted in the poem, *We are Seven*.

(2)

- (b) Illuminate on the theme of the wall as treated by Robert Frost in the poem, *Mending Wall*.
- (c) Present a critical appreciation of the poem, *To the Indians Who Died in Africa* by T. S. Eliot.
- (d) Examine Nissim Ezekiel's *A Very Indian* *in Indian English* as a satire on colloquial Indian English.

UNIT—II

- (a) Describe how a simple quarrel between the landlord and the tenant is presented as a major crime in the American social system which is grossly biased against the blacks, from your reading of Langston Hughes' *Ballad of the Landlord*.
- (b) How does the farmer's wife put forward her perspective regarding the division of work between men and women in Seamus Heaney's poem, *The Wife's Tale*?

(3)

- (c) Comment critically on the theme of alienation in a foreign land in the poem, *Wherever I Hang* by Grace Nichols.
- (d) How is the theme of colonization treated in Derek Walcott's *Koening of the River*?

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

5

- (a) A man's destination is not his destiny,
Every country is home to one man
And exile to another.
- (b) The little Maid would have her will,
And said, "Nay, we are Seven!"
- (c) Ten Bucks you say I owe you?
Ten Bucks you say is due?
Well, that's Ten Bucks more'n I'll pay you
Till you fix this house up new.

(4)

3. Give very brief answers to any *five* of the following : 1×5=5

- (a) What was the name of the first girl to die in the poem, *We are Seven*?
- (b) The line, "What I was walling in or walling out" occurs in which poem?
- (c) To whom is the poem, *To the Indians Who Died in Africa* dedicated?
- (d) Which Indian drink is referred to as 'good for digestion' in the poem, *A Very Indian Poem in Indian English*?
- (e) What does the black tenant demand from his landlord in *Ballad of the Landlord*?
- (f) What does 'thresher' mean in the poem, *The Wife's Tale*?
- (g) What is the title of the first poetry collection of Grace Nichols?

(5)

(h) What does 'torpor' mean in the poem, *Koenig of the River*?

(B : One-Act Play)

UNIT—III

4. Answer the following in brief (any *three*) : 1×3=3

- (a) How old is Lomov?
- (b) What is the meaning of the expression, 'walking drugstore'?
- (c) What property do Lomov and Natalia argue over?
- (d) What is the cost of Natalia's dog Otkatai?
- (e) "May you never darken my door again!" To whom does Tschubukov say this?

5. Answer briefly any *two* of the following : $3 \times 2 = 6$

- (a) How does Tschubukov bring about reconciliation between Lomov and Natalia?
- (b) Describe Natalia's first meeting with Lomov.
- (c) "And to think that this fool dares to make a proposal of marriage!"
Who says this to whom and in what context? What is the reaction of the listener after hearing this?

6. (a) Answer any *one* of the following : 14

- (i) Compare and contrast the characters of Natalia and Lomov.
- (ii) "In *A Marriage Proposal*, the plot is reduced to a minimum and the play's ending is more an interruption than a conclusion."
Discuss.
- (iii) Consider Anton Chekhov's *A Marriage Proposal* as a domestic comedy.

(b) Answer any *one* of the following : 7

- (i) Present a brief discussion on the representation of the land owner class of rural Russia in the one-act play, *A Marriage Proposal*.
- (ii) Write a note on the element of humour in the character and situation in the one-act play, *A Marriage Proposal*.
