2023

ENGLISH

Paper : ENG-HC-2016

(Honours Core)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer the following questions : 1×10=10

(a) With what does Derozio compare the black hair of the orphan girl?

(b) In how many languages does the poet, Kamala Das, dream?

(c) Who came like 'swarms of flies' in *Night of the Scorpion*?

(d) What is the name of the mother in *A Poem for Mother*?

(e) What is the title conferred on Lalla Jhinda Ram?

(f) Who is the monitor of Swami's class?

(g) What is the name of the famous Urdu poet in Desai's *In Custody*?

(h) Where does the couple go for honeymoon in *The Intrusion*?

(i) Who is Frieda in *Lights Out*?

(j) Where does Chandan move to in *Tara*?

2. Answer the following questions : 2×5=10

(a) What are the things that the slave compares himself with on attaining freedom?

(b) What does the poet mean by the phrase 'wheel of fire' in *The Strange Affair of Robin S. Ngangom*?

(c) What prompted Swami's father to write a letter to the Headmaster of Albert Mission School?

(d) Why did Ramani agree for vasectomy?

(e) Why does Roopa consent to be Tara's friend?

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 5×4=20

(a) How does the poet, Derozio, describe the orphan girl?

(b) Write a note on irony and caricature in *Very Indian Poem in English*.

(c) Discuss briefly the theme of Anand's *Two Lady Rams*.

(d) Comment on the theme of friendship in Desai's *In Custody*.

(e) Write a critical note on the title of the story, *The Intrusion*.

(f) Give a brief account of the circumstances under which Chandan was given the 'third leg'.

4. Answer the following questions : 10×4=40

(a) Discuss the themes of violence and corruption in *The Strange Affair of Robin S. Ngangom*.

Or

Critically examine the metaphorical journey of the pilgrims in Ezekiel's *Enterprise*.

(b) What, in your opinion, is Rushdie's comment on the socio-political situation of India in *The Free Radio*? Elucidate.

Or

Write a critical essay on the colonial education system as presented by R. K. Narayan in *Swami and Friends*.

(c) Comment on Anita Desai's portrayal of women characters in the novel, *In Custody*.

Or

Discuss how Shashi Deshpande uses the technique of split consciousness to voice the innermost feelings of the female protagonist in *The Intrusion*.

(d) Critically discuss the theme of violence against women in *Lights Out*.

Or

Discuss the theme of parental authority in *Tara*.

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2023

ENGLISH

Paper : ENG-HC-2026

(British Poetry and Drama : 14th to 17th Centuries)

(Honours Core)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer the following questions as directed : 1×10=10

(a) Why is Shakespeare's play named *Twelfth Night*?

(b) What is the name of the country where Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* is set?

(c) What name does Viola take up in Orsino's court?

(d) How many husbands did the Wife of Bath have?

(e) How did the Wife of Bath dominate her old husbands?

(f) Whom does Lady Macbeth frame for the murder of Duncan?

(g) Where was Doctor Faustus born?

(h) In the poem, *The Sunne Rising*, why is the sun called a 'busy old fool'?

(i) But trepidation of the spheres, though greater far, is _____.

(Fill in the blank)

(j) When was Spenser's *Amoretti* published?

2. Answer the following questions : 2×5=10

(a) What is the plea that the poet makes to his beloved in Spenser's *Sweet Warrior* (Sonnet 57)?

(b) What does the 'three-personed God' mean in the poem, *Batter My Heart*?

(c) Name the twins in *Twelfth Night*.

(d) Why does Macbeth think that the witches want to help him?

(e) Why does Doctor Faustus decide to practice necromancy?

3. Write short notes on any *four* of the following : 5×4=20

(a) The speaker's attitude towards the sun in Donne's *The Sunne Rising*

(b) The Romantic entanglements in *Twelfth Night*

(c) Literary devices in Spenser's *One Day I Wrote Her Name*

(d) The difference between kingship and tyranny in *Macbeth*

(e) The relationship between the Wife of Bath and her fifth husband

(f) The role of the good and the bad angels in *Doctor Faustus*

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 10×4=40

(a) Discuss Donne's *The Sunne Rising* as a metaphysical poem.

Or

(b) What idea do you form of the character of the Wife of Bath from her prologue? Elaborate.

(c) Analyse the representation of Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth.*

Or

(d) Discuss the poetic themes in the prescribed sections of Spenser's *Amoretti.*

(e) How do Viola and Olivia represent instances of gender role reversal in *Twelfth Night*?

Or

(f) Attempt a critical appreciation of Spenser's Sonnet LXXV, *One Day I Wrote Her Name.*

(g) Examine the concept of hell as depicted by Mephistopheles in *Doctor Faustus.*

Or

(h) What is the role of the comic characters in *Doctor Faustus*? How does Marlowe use them to illuminate Faustus' decline? Discuss.

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2023

ENGLISH

(Honours Core)

Paper : ENG–HC–6016

(Modern European Drama)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer the following questions as directed : 1×10=10

(a) Who wrote the book, *Theatre of the Absurd*?

(b) Why was Lopakhin called Little Peasant?

(c) What is Estragon doing at the opening of the play?

(d) "There was a time, forty-five years ago when the cherries were dried, soaked, pickled, cooked into jam and it used to be... ." Who is the speaker?

(e) Who are Anya and Varya?

(f) Where was Henrik Ibsen born?

(g) When was *A Doll's House* first performed?

(h) What do you mean by Kolchoz?

(i) All the characters in the opening scene of *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* address each other by _____.

(Fill in the blank)

(j) "The sins of the father are visited upon the children." Who says this?

2. Answer the following questions : 2×5=10

(a) What does Lopakhin plan to do with the Cherry Orchard?

(b) In what ways is Mrs. Alving radical?

(c) What do the final lines of the play, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* signify?

(d) What does the tree symbolize in the play, *Waiting for Godot*?

(e) Estragon : Which Saturday did he say? Is it Saturday today? Is it not Sunday, (Pause) or Monday (Pause)? It might even be Friday.

What is the significance of these lines in terms of the theme of the play?

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 5×4=20

(a) "All the gestures and devices, which we know as 'Brechtian' are experimental efforts to transform how audiences respond to a staged narrative in order to influence and change interpretations of the world." Justify this statement from your reading of Brecht's, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle.*

(b) Critically comment on the ending of *The Cherry Orchard.*

(c) "The stick and watch are symbols of Lopakhin's divided personality." Discuss the validity of the statement.

(d) The title *Ghosts* suggests that Mrs. Alving's struggle to alter her circumstances is bound to fail. Discuss.

(e) Critically comment on the Pozzo-Lucky relationship in *Waiting for Godot.*

(f) "And I've got this, joy of life too, Mrs. Alving—in me!"

Who is the speaker? What light do these words throw on the theme of the play?

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 10×4=40

(a) Discuss how theatre can plead for social change with reference to a play prescribed in your course.

(b) Analyse *Ghosts* as a naturalistic play. Would you agree that Ibsen moved beyond the ideology of naturalism?

(c) Time is a fundamental concern in Beckett's play, *Waiting for Godot.* Discuss.

(d) Would you regard Madame Ranevskaya and Gayeff as tragic or comic characters? Give a reasoned answer.

(e) Critically comment on the breakdown of language in *Waiting for Godot.*

(f) "Azdak's main purpose is to upset those social norms for the audience so that we may challenge our own beliefs and truths." Comment on the role of Azdak in the light of this statement.

(g) How do you analyse Grusha's character? Give a justified answer.

(h) Comment on the orphanage as a key symbol in Ibsen's *Ghosts.*

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2023

ENGLISH

(Honours Core)

Paper : ENG-HC-6026

(Postcolonial Literatures)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer the following as directed : 1×10=10

(a) What did Okonkwo bring home from his trip to Mbaino?

(b) Angela Vicario's father could not _____ (talk/walk/see).

(Choose the correct option)

(c) Who is Paul Theoblo's wife?

(d) Why does Nana criticize the narrator's legs?

(e) In which book was Grace Ogot's story, *The Green Leaves* published first?

(f) What is the most important item in Bride-Bride?

(g) To which country did Pablo Neruda belong?

(h) A wind is ruffling the _____ pelt.

(Fill in the blank)

(i) Who is the poet of the poem, *Wild Lemons*?

(j) What is the speciality of Kirhupfumia women?

2. Answer the following as directed : 2×5=10

(a) How did the villagers feel about the coming of the locusts and what did they do about it?

(b) How does Nyagar die in the story, *The Green Leaves*?

(c) What do the words 'moubain' and 'cerise' mean in the poem, *Names*?

(d) That year I had _____ to go, I fell in _____

(Fill in the blanks)

(e) Name the two sisters Ville meets.

3. Answer any *four* from the following questions : 5×4=20

(a) Write briefly on the theme of honour and its relation to the foretold death of Santiago.

(b) Why, according to the story of Ashon, school is a waste for women? Comment.

(c) Write a short description of Arjie's life at Victoria Academy.

(d) Explain the following lines with reference to the context :

Solar stone, pure among the regions
Of the world. Spain streaked
With blood and metal, blue and victorious
Proletarian Spain.

(e) Write briefly on how the Mau Mau Rebellion sets the context of the poem, *A Far Cry from Africa*.

(f) Justify the title of Easterine Kire's *When the River Sleeps*.

4. Answer the following questions : 10×4=40

(a) "Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* depicts the changes of familial and religious values under cultural colonialism." Do you agree? Give a well-reasoned answer.

Or

Discuss the significance of the title of *A Collector of Treasures*.

(b) Analyze the character of Nyagar in *The Green Leaves*.

Or

Examine Selvadurai's exploration of 'self' in his novel, *Funny Boy*.

(c) How do you access Pablo Neruda as a poet of love and reminiscence? Discuss by situating him in the postcolonial literary context.

Or

Do you think in Derek Walcott's poetry the spirit of decolonization is inextricably bound with the ideas of racism and acceptance of hybrid identity? Critically analyze.

(d) Can we read David Malouf as a poet who focuses primarily on memory and nostalgia in his poetry? Examine in the context of the prescribed poems.

Or

Write a comprehensive note on the various facets of postcolonial literature citing examples from texts that you have read.

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2023

ENGLISH

(Honours Elective)

Paper : ENG-HE-6016

(Literature and Cinema)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Write briefly on any *four* of the following : 5×4=20

(a) Period film

(b) Long shot

(c) Fade

(d) Perception

(e) Flash back

(f) Partition film

(g) Tragedy

(h) Satyajit Ray

2. Answer any *three* of the following as directed : 2×3=6

(a) Give any two examples of absence in cinema.

(b) What is cinematography? Define very briefly.

(c) Name the two feuding families in *Romeo and Juliet*.

(d) *Ganashatru* is an adaptation of the play ____ by ____.

(Fill in the blanks)

3. Answer any *two* of the following questions briefly : 2×2=4

(a) Define mise-en-scène.

(b) Define screenplay.

(c) Name any two detective thrillers that had influenced later films.

(d) What is the fundamental conflict in Ray's *Ganashatru*?

4. Answer the following as directed : 1×10=10

(a) The setting of Luhrmann's *Romeo and Juliet* is ____.

(Fill in the blank)

(b) Sir Alfred Hitchcock is an ____ filmmaker.

(Fill in the blank)

(c) Mention the year and the city featured in Deepa Mehta's *Earth*.

(d) Amrita Pritam's *Pinjar* was originally written in ____.

(Fill in the blank)

(e) Whose baby was adopted by Hamida in *Pinjar*?

(f) *Rudaali*, the film has been directed by ____.

(Fill in the blank)

(g) The villagers referred to their Zamindars by their names in the film *Rudaali*.

(Write True or False)

(h) What are the principal colours shown in the film?

(i) Who plays the role of Ashok Gupta in Ray's film, *Ganashatru*?

(j) Name the newspaper that publishes Dr. Gupta's research article.

5. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 10×4=40

(a) Critically analyze Luhrmann's modern take of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*.

(b) Discuss the significance of various sounds like the chorus, drum beats, wailing and orchestral music in *Rudaali*.

(c) Assess the socio-cultural setting of Amrita Pritam's *Pinjar* and its adaptation by Dwivedi.

(d) Discuss how presence/absence in thrillers play a significant role. Mention some of the instances from any Hitchcock film.

(e) How is partition of the country experienced by women in films like *Pinjar* and *Earth*?

(f) Analyze the role and character of Shanichari in *Rudaali*.

(g) Discuss and comment on the ending of Ray's *Ganashatru*.

(h) How does Ray bring in realism in the film, *Ganashatru*? Mention the various images from the film.

(i) Write an essay on politics and religion with reference to the films in your course.

(j) Enumerate Monaco's concern in his essay, *The Language of a Film*.

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2023

ENGLISH

(Honours Elective)

Paper : ENG-HE-6066

(Writings from North-East India)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer the following questions (any *ten*) : 1×10=10

(a) Who is the mother of U. Thlen?

(b) Who is Mut-li-tyu?

(c) Why was the earthernware pot made by Itbu-moo?

(d) What is the meaning of the word 'mythos'?

(e) What did the old man Sashi tell his grandson when the latter came back to the house?

(f) Why did Rahim leave his wife Julekha?

(g) How did the man with the mace look like in the story, *Audition*?

(h) Which call of Gandhi had a strange and fascinating appeal to Bordoloi?

(i) What, according to Moji Riba, does Arunachal epitomise?

(j) What is Amona?

(k) What, according to Devakanta Barua, is the title of the painting that hangs above his table?

(l) Who is Monimala in the short story, *Spring in Hell*?

(m) In the fields
The paddy was passing into _____.
(Fill in the blank)

(n) Name Itlur's child who is known to move whenever any event of significance occurs.

(o) Why was Ka Kma Kharai cursed with a deformed demon?

(p) Who is the playwright of *Aahar*?

2. Answer any *five* of the following questions : 2×5=10

(a) What does the old man's neighbour inform Sashi about his friend Imlikokba?

(b) What is mopin? When is it celebrated?

(c) What is the reason for the separation between Sankar and Monimala?

(d) How does the poet portray the aging of Baje through his movements?

(e) "Stories are but a small part of vast oral tradition." How?

(f) How, according to Lepcha myth, the first man and woman were told to live as? Where were they placed?

(g) What inspires the young man to write poetry and sing songs? Did Prafulla take part in these?

(h) Why did Bordoloi seek Bapuji's permission to write the latter's life?

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 5×4=20

(a) What happened to the number of offsprings born out of the forbidden union in *The Story of Creation*?

(b) Narrate briefly Sashi's condition after he reached his friend's house who recently passed away.

(c) Do you believe that Thlen was an evil creature of supernatural world? Justify your answer.

(d) How does the poet portray the passing away of Boju?

(e) Explain briefly the life of the subaltern in the story, *Spring in Hell*.

(f) What made Prafulla take his 'Bhisma Pratigya'? What made him break his 'Bhisma Pratigya' towards the end?

(g) How does a nyibo's life get changed once he is appointed?

(h) Discuss briefly how the playwright has dealt with the theme of hunger by interweaving different dimensions in the play, *Aahar*.

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 10×4=40

(a) Consider *The Story of Creation* as a symbolic narrative of how the world began and also the people inhabiting the world.

(b) "Nurturing of evil and an indomitable inclination towards greed determines U Thlen's move towards the depraved road." Elaborate

(c) Describe in your own words the friendship of Sashi and Imli as narrated to his grandson Moa.

(d) How does the Tani group of people preserve their traditional beliefs and practices in the face of modernisation?

(e) Critically comment on the title of the story, *Spring in Hell*.

(f) Narrate Prafulla's experience of giving an audition inside the studio.

(g) Discuss *Aahar* as an absurd play.

(h) How does Bhandari present that time remains unaffected whereas, the only passing that takes place is the physical state of things in the poem, *Time Does Not Pass*?

(i) In *Reminiscences of Gandhi*, Bordoloi has presented accounts of Gandhi through different lenses, public, personal and historical. Discuss.

(j) In *We Open the Gates*, how does the poet create a rich canvas of spaces combining the symbolic, the surreal and the imaginary?

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2023

ENGLISH

Paper : ENG-CC-2016

(English—II)

(Compulsory Course)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

Answer **all** questions

1. Change the voice of the following sentences (any *five*) : 1×5=5

(a) He will finish the work in a fortnight.

(b) The gate was opened by the peon.

(c) Who did this?

(d) The farmer gathers the harvest.

(e) Columbus discovered America.

(f) Her teacher praised her.

(g) We expect good news.

2. Fill in the blanks by choosing appropriate determiners given in brackets (any *five*) : 1×5=5

(a) The teacher gave a chocolate to ____ child. (each/all)

(b) ____ people visit this temple now. (Little/Few)

(c) She doesn't drink ____ coffee. (some/much)

(d) I regret to say that there is ____ I can do in this matter. (little/a little)

(e) ____ children love to play with toys. (All/Each)

(f) Do you know ____ pen is this? (whose/whom)

(g) Is there ____ food left in the fridge? (many/any)

3. Answer any *five* of the following briefly : 2×5=10

(a) What are the qualities that are shared by the lamb, God and the child?

(b) What did Sophocles hear long ago and in which sea in Arnold's "Dover Beach"?

(c) Fill in the blanks :

"Maybe it just ____
like a heavy load.
Or does it ____?"

(d) In the poem, "Shillong", how does the poet look at the ladybug?

(e) Who does the speaker converse with in "Telephone Conversation" and what does she ask him?

(f) Complete the following lines from Lorca's "Sleepwalking Ballad" :

"Green I want you green.
____ wind, ____ boughs.
Ship on the sea
and horse on the mountain."

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 5×4=20

(a) Why does the poet use "Little Lamb, I'll tell thee" twice in the poem, "The Lamb"?

(b) Why does the poet shift from the third person to the second person narration in the poem, "Dover Beach"?

(c) In Coleridge's poem, "Christabel", what are the unnatural things that happen when Christabel and Geraldine enter the castle?

(d) Why is the girl in "Punishment" referred to as the scapegoat?

(e) Why does Langston Hughes answer his main question from a list of questions in the poem, "Harlem"?

(f) Why is the poet unable to appreciate the beauties of nature in the poem, "Shillong"?

5. Answer any *three* of the following questions : 10×3=30

(a) How does Matthew Arnold describe the crisis of faith during the Victorian period through the poem, "Dover Beach"?

(b) How is the castle described in the poem, "Christabel"? What is its significance in the poem?

(c) In the poem, "Harlem", what does Hughes say regarding dreams that have been postponed? How is it connected by the poet to the title of the poem?

(d) Write a critical appreciation of the poem, "Shillong".

(e) Consider "Telephone Conversation" by Wole Soyinka as a fine example of a dramatic monologue.

(f) The poem, "Purdah" by Imtiaz Dharker shows how women who practise purdah feel helplessly trapped when deciding to follow purdah, society's demands or their own heart. Discuss.

(g) Write a brief note on the role of memory in the poem, "The House".

6. Answer any *one* of the following : 10

(a) Write a précis of the following passage :

In these sleepy little hill towns, there is a secret path every child knows, a trail every nostalgic adult remembers. Sometimes they lead to river holes and secret hideouts, other times to a beloved; perhaps a grandparent or best friend. Vime's special place was the very path itself—a crumbling cobbled

mossed walkway, level ground playfully interlacing with stairs, miniscule wild daisies and cudweed on the grooves and edges, winding in, out, trailing further and further down into the deepest woods. The narrow lane effortlessly navigated between rows of cottages on one side and the forest against mistcloaked hills and perennial evergreen trees on the other. It had been built by local coolies hired by the British many decades ago. Vime didn't know where the footpath ended. She had never been so far.

Mrs. Sebu threw open her window just as Vime was passing by. 'Neinuo', the woman called out affectionately, using the local term of endearment meaning 'little one'.

"Where might you be off to this fine afternoon?"

"Oh, hello Aunty...umm...nowhere in particular", feeling self-conscious, Vime muttered her words, politely slowing her pace but not stopping either.

(b) Frame a dialogue between a teacher and a student who are discussing ways and methods to learn English well. (Approx. *220* words)

(c) We all love to go through family albums. Try to remember a picture that you saw in one such album and describe an older family member as he or she was when at your age. (Approx. *300* words)

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