

2015

ENGLISH

( Major )

Paper : 6.6

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours.

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

OPTION—A

**( Indian Poetry, Fiction and Drama )**

1. Answer the following questions : 1×7=7

- (a) What is the creeper compared to in *Our Casuarina Tree*?
- (b) Where does the poet see the portrait of a stranger in *Self Portrait*?
- (c) In *Snowmen*, where did Agha Shahid Ali's ancestor come from?

- (d) In which collection were the prescribed poems by Agha Shahid Ali published?
- (e) In which of the prescribed novels do you find the character 'Velan'?
- (f) Who is a Vice-Chancellor's wife in *Fire on the Mountain*?
- (g) What reason does Jyoti state for choosing Arun as her life partner in *Kanyadaan*?

2. Identify the following poems and briefly explain them : 2×4=8

(a) A dense, dense forest, where no  
sunbeam pries,
 And in its centre a cleared spot.  
—There bloom
 Gigantic flowers on creepers that  
embrace tall trees;
 There in a quiet lucid lake the white  
swans glide;

(b) That stare of perpetual surprise  
 In those great green eyes  
 Will teach you  
 to die alone.

(c) And my memory will be a little  
 Out of focus, in it  
 A giant negative, black  
 And white, still undeveloped.



- (d) He wound the gramophone to a fury,  
the needles grazing Malika Pukhraj's songs  
As he, drunk, tore his shirts  
And wept at the refrain,  
'I am still young.'

3. Answer any *three* of the following questions :

5×3=15

- (a) Discuss the metaphors used by Toru Dutt in *Our Casuarina Tree*.
- (b) Analyze the specific image that you find in Ramanujan's *Breaded Fish*.
- (c) What differences between Kashmir and Lucknow does Agha Shahid Ali highlight in *The Season of the Plains*?
- (d) Comment on R. K. Narayan's symbolic use of the railway station in *The Guide*.
- (e) Discuss the theme of alienation in *Tughlaq*.
- (f) Examine Vijay Tendulkar's representation of caste and marriage in *Kanyadaan*.

4. Answer any *three* of the following questions :

10×3=30

- (a) From a reading of the prescribed poems of Eunice de Souza, show how her poetry is an attempt at negotiating the female voice pitched against a predominantly male terrain.

- (b) How does Agha Shahid Ali effect a fusion of the past and the present? Discuss, with illustrations, from the prescribed poems.
- (c) Discuss the title of the novel, *The Guide*.
- (d) Discuss Anita Desai's *Fire on the Mountain* as a novel that explores the effectiveness of escapism as a coping mechanism.
- (e) "Tughlaq is not an ordinary chronicle play but it is an imaginative reconstruction of history in the modern context."

Examine the play in the light of the above statement.

- (f) Discuss *Kanyadaan* as a play that explores issues of modernity and social change.
- (g) Analyze *Shakuntala* as an exploration of history, myth and memory.



OPTION—B

( American Fiction, Autobiography and Drama )

SECTION—I

1. Answer the following questions : 1×4=4

- (a) What is the name of the romance that the narrator reads to Roderick Usher?
- (b) What is the name of the ship on which Billy Budd works at the opening of the novel?
- (c) How many years did Harriet Jacobs spend in the attic?
- (d) Who was responsible for the death of Zitkala-Sa's sister and uncle?

2. Answer the following questions : 2+2=4

- (a) Why does the narrator visit the house of Usher?
- (b) How does Zitkala-Sa describe herself as a seven-year-old girl in *My Mother*?

3. Write short notes on any *two* of the following : 5×2=10

- (a) The crack running down the entire length of *The House of Usher*
- (b) The use of Native-American oral tradition by Zitkala-Sa

(c) The role of the grandmother in *A Perilous Passage in the Slave Girl's Life*

4. Examine the lyric *The Haunted Palace* written by Roderick Usher in *The Fall of the House of Usher*. Discuss how Poe uses it to explore Roderick's mental and emotional state of mind.

10

Or

“The chief concern of *Billy Budd* is with innocence as much as with evil.” Would you agree with this view? Give reasons for your answer.

5. Using *A Perilous Passage in the Slave Girl's Life*, show how slave narratives explored the aspects of American life that were rarely openly acknowledged.

10

Or

Would you agree with the view that Richard Wright in *Long Black Song* is suggesting that a black man's attempt to participate fully in the white economic system might very well lead to tragedy? Give reasons for your answer.



1. Answer the following questions :  $1 \times 7 = 7$
- (a) "This, and dig me deeper still into  
The god's swollen foot."  
Name the poem.
- (b) Name the North Nigerian whose letter  
Chinna Achebe refers to in *The Novelist  
as Teacher*.
- (c) In which of the prescribed essays is the  
song *I Ain't Gonna Wash for a week*  
referred to?
- (d) Name the title of the collection of poems  
to which Niyi Osundare's *Our Earth Will  
Not Die* belongs.

( African Literature in English )

OPTION—E

7. Answer any one of the following questions : 10
- (a) Write a note on Shakespeare's  
contribution to the development of the  
English language.
- (b) Discuss Milton's use of language in  
*Paradise Lost*.
- (c) Give an account of the contribution of  
T. S. Eliot to the English language.

2. Answer/Write on the following briefly :  $2 \times 4 = 8$

- (a) Two French loan words in English
- (b) The King James' version is the third English translation of the Christian *Bible* for the Church of England. Name the first and the second translations.
- (c) Two languages that influenced American language
- (d) Two words to distinguish American from British spelling

3. Write short notes on any *two* of the following :  $5 \times 2 = 10$

- (a) Scandinavian loan words in English
- (b) Latin influence on the English language
- (c) Americanism
- (d) Words and phrases of British English with different meanings in American English

4. Answer the following questions :  $10 \times 2 = 20$

- (a) Give an account of the influence of the Norman Conquest on the English language.

Or

Write an essay on the *Authorized Version of the Bible*.



- (b) Bring out the differences between American English and British English in respect of spelling and vocabulary.

Or

What is American English? Write a note on the grammatical differences between American English and British English.

SECTION—B

5. Answer the following as directed : 1×3=3

(a) Write one phrase that originated with Shakespeare.

(b) Dr. Johnson claimed that he could finish creating an authoritative dictionary of the English language in — years.

(Fill in the blank)

(c) Who is credited with coining the phrase 'New Journalism'?

6. Write a short note on any one of the following : 5

(a) Miltonic Effects

(b) Johnson's Dictionary

(c) Wordsworth's Language of Nature

(c) Why not let me speak in  
Any language I like? The language I speak  
Becomes mine, its distortions,  
its queernesses  
All mine, mine alone

(d) The Truth's superb surprise  
As lightning to the children eased  
With explanation kind  
The truth must dazzle gradually  
Or every man be blind—

(e) Well  
she's long about her coming, who  
must be  
more merciless to herself than history

4. (a) How does H. D. use imagism in order to reconceive, relations between men as subjects and woman as objects? Explain with reference to the prescribed texts. 10

Or

(b) How does Anne Sexton depict the female realm of family life in the poem, *Housewife*?

5. (a) Discuss, in your own words, the themes of alienation and exile in Smith's *The Wanderers*. 10

Or

(b) "Snapshots of a Daughter-in-law expresses the poet's interest in resisting and rebelling both as a woman and as a poet." Do you agree? Give reasons.



6. (a) Would you regard Lucy Hutchinson as a follower of true Puritan ideologies? Substantiate your argument with illustrations from the text. 10

Or

- (b) "One of the prime attractions of *The Journal and Letters* has been the character and personality of Frances Burney Herself." Comment with reference to the prescribed entry.

OPTION—D

SECTION—A

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

- (a) William the conqueror of Normandy invaded the island of Britain in —. (Fill in the blank)
- (b) What is King James' version of the *Bible* commonly known as?
- (c) Which dialect did Chaucer employ in his work?
- (d) 'Old Norse' is synonymous with the term —. (Fill in the blank)

OPTION—C

[ Women's Poetry, Journals and Diaries (OPT) ]

1. Answer any *seven* of the following questions :

1×7=7

- (a) To what does the speaker in *To My Dear and Loving Husband* compare her husband's love for her?
- (b) To whom was the sonnet *To George Sand : A Recognition* addressed?
- (c) What does the Fairer House in *I dwell in Possibility* refer to?
- (d) What is the full name of Stevie Smith?
- (e) To which woman figure does the speaker refer to in the fourth stanza of *Snapshots of a Daughter-in-law*?
- (f) In which year was Kamala Das's *The Dance of the Eunuchs* written?
- (g) Why is the speaker of *An Introduction* forbidden to write in English?
- (h) Who was Colonel Hutchinson?

2. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

2×4=8

- (a) How, according to the speaker, does the 'deep-hearted man' express grief for the 'dead' in the poem, *Grief*?



- (b) Why does the speaker regard 'Poetry' as superior to 'Prose' in *I dwell in Possibility*?
- (c) How does the speaker depict the bounty of the orchard in H.D.'s *Orchard*?
- (d) Where, according to the speaker of *The Wanderers*, would the 'pitiful ghost' be happier?
- (e) What did the eunuchs sing about in *The Dance of the Eunuchs*?
- (f) When did Frances Burney make The first entry in her journal and whom was it addressed to?
3. Critically comment on any *three* of the following extracts with reference to the context : 5×3=15

(a) O wind, rend open the heat,  
cut apart the heat,  
rend it to tatters

(b) A woman is her mother  
That's the main thing

SECTION—II

6. Answer the following questions :  $1 \times 3 = 3$

(a) Where do Simeon and Peter long to go in *Desire Under the Elms*?

(b) What does Beneatha Younger want to be?

(c) Name the only white character in the play, *A Raisin in the Sun*.

7. Answer the following questions :  $2 + 2 = 4$

(a) Why did Eben Cabot hate his father Ephraim?

(b) What does Beneatha's hair symbolize in *A Raisin in the Sun*?

8. Write a short note on any *one* of the following : 5

(a) The character of Abbie Putnam

(b) Title of the play, *A Raisin in the Sun*

9. Consider Eugene O'Neill's *Desire Under the Elms* as a tragedy. 10

Or

"Lorraine Hansberry explores not only the inherent tension between white and black society but also the strain within the black community in *A Raisin in the Sun*." Give a well-reasoned answer.



- (e) Name the village in which Buchi Emecheta was raised.
- (f) Which prescribed writer's first book was *In the Ditch*?
- (g) In which year was Ngugi wa Thiong'o's *The Language of African Literature* first published?

2. Answer the following questions briefly :  $2 \times 4 = 8$

- (a) "The wind, unwound, will play its tune  
trees turttering, grasses dancing."

Name the poem and explain the context.

- (b) Explain the following lines from Wole Soyinka's prescribed poem :

"Suppliant snake coiled on the doorstep  
yours the killing cry."

- (c) "We never asked ourselves : how can we  
enrich our language."

(Ngugi wa Thiong'o) Briefly elaborate.

- (d) "Art is important but so is education of  
the kind I have in mind." (Chinua Achebe) Briefly explain.

3. Answer any *three* of the following questions :

$5 \times 3 = 15$

- (a) Explain the title of Naana Banyiwaa, Horne's poem, *Nana Bosompo*.

- (b) What is the experience that Wole Soyinka seeks to articulate in *Abiku*?

(c) "If I were God I would regard as the very worst our acceptance—for whatever reasons—of racial inferiority." (Chinua Achebe, *The Novelist as Teacher*) Explain.

(d) Show how Buchi Emecheta highlights the significance of her rigorous Ibo upbringing in *Feminism with a small 'f'*.

4. Answer any *three* of the following questions :

10×3=30

(a) Is it correct to state that Niyi Osundare's *Our Earth Will Not Die* is a poem of optimism and hope? Elaborate by analyzing his engagement with nature in the poem.

(b) Do you think that Chinua Achebe perceives any role for the creative writer in Africa? Elaborate with reference to his views on the need to preserve the African heritage.

(c) Critically examine Lenrie Peters' *I am Talking to you My sister* to make an assessment of his poetic technique.

(d) Show how, in *Feminism with a small 'f'* Buchi Emecheta distinguishes African feminism from Western feminism. Why does she think polygamy is liberating?



- (e) Examine how, in *The Language of African Literature*, Ngugi wa Thiong'o describes the significance of the native tongue in the understanding of African culture.
- (f) From a reading of the prescribed poems, attempt a general description of the unique nature of African poetry.

OPTION—F

( Film Adaptation )

SECTION—I

1. Answer the following questions : 1×7=7

- (a) What is the subtitle of *Ben Hur*?
- (b) Who was the first Bennet sisters to be married?
- (c) What colour horse did Darcy ride?
- (d) What is Big Daddy's wife called?
- (e) Which famous actress plays the lead role in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*?
- (f) Which famous Indian actor plays the role of 'Bhaisaab' in *Omkaara*?
- (g) Name the protagonist of the film *Great Expectations* by Alfonso Cuaron.

2. Answer the following questions briefly :  $2 \times 4 = 8$

- (a) Who is Pamela Rooks?
- (b) What is 'Cinema'?
- (c) How did Bricks break his ankle in the beginning of the movie?
- (d) Which role does Robert De Niro play in Cuarón's film?

#### SECTION—II

Answer any *three* of the following questions :

$5 \times 3 = 15$

- 3. What is an epic? Show how epic films gain impetus in Biblical elements with reference to *Ben Hur*.
- 4. Discuss Big Daddy's role in the film.
- 5. Comment on the character of Miss Dinsmoor as Dickens' Miss Havisham in the film, *Great Expectations*.
- 6. Reflect on 'revisitation' and interpretation of a novel into images in a film. Substantiate your answer with suitable examples from *Pride and Prejudice* and *Great Expectations*.
- 7. What, according to you, is a good adaptation? Discuss.



SECTION—III

8. "We are all Fools in Love."

Discuss and analyze with reference to the above statement the theme of love and marriage in Joe Wright's *Pride and Prejudice* (2005). 10

Or

Enumerate the issues of gender, class and caste in *Omkara* and focus on the character of Dolly.

9. Do you think Cuarón's film is more about love and sexuality and so, misses Dickens' story of a young man's journey into adulthood? Elaborate. 10

Or

Show how Rooks in the film *Dance Like a Man* explores the complexities of self-assertion, dream and social roles.

10. Write an essay on epic films considering production design, costumes and relevance. 10

Or

Discuss a few problems faced by filmmakers in adapting Shakespearean films.

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