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4 SEM FYUGP ENGC4D

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(May/June)

ENGLISH

(Core)

Paper : ENGC4D

(Indian Writing in English)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ hours

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

UNIT—I

(Historical and Literary Context)

(Marks : 10)

1. Attempt any *one* of the following : 10

- (a) Discuss any five factors which have contributed to the rise and growth of Indian writing in English.

(2)

- (b) Write a note on the contribution of Raja Rao and Mulk Raj Anand to the development of Indian English fiction.
- (c) Write a note on the contribution of the women poets to Indian English poetry in the post-independent era.
- (d) Do you think that Indian writing in English largely deals with the theme of 'Indianness'? Substantiate your answer.

UNIT—II

(Indian English Novel)

(Marks : 20)

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

- (a) Assess critically how Narayan has treated issues like superstition, gender discrimination, caste distinction and financial disparity in his novel, *The English Teacher*.
- (b) Discuss *The English Teacher* as an autobiographical novel.

(3)

- (c) "Throughout the novel *Fasting, Feasting*, we encounter a clear conflict between tradition and modernity." Comment on this observation from your reading of Anita Desai's novel, *Fasting, Feasting*.
- (d) What is the significance of the title of Anita Desai's novel, *Fasting, Feasting*? Discuss.

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

- (a) Post-colonial elements in *The English Teacher*
- (b) Marriage and domestic life as reflected in *The English Teacher*
- (c) Uma's character in the novel, *Fasting, Feasting*
- (d) Silent suffering as a dominant theme in the novel, *Fasting, Feasting*

(4)

UNIT—III

(Indian English Poetry)

(Marks : 15)

4. Attempt any one of the following : 10

- (a) Write a critical note on the multiple perspectives of the Indian society as reflected in Nissim Ezekiel's poems prescribed for your study.

Or

Discuss how Ezekiel has shown the influence of superstition on a traditional Indian society in his poem, *Night of the Scorpion*.

- (b) Discuss Kamala Das as a confessional poet citing examples from her poems prescribed for your study.

- (c) Write a critical appreciation of any one of the following poems :

(i) *Freedom to the Slave*

(ii) *The Strange Affair of Robin S. Ngangom*

(5)

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

- (a) I'm sorry Palem.

Forgive me, for all your dreams
of peace during your remnant days
I turned out to be a small man
with small dreams, living a small life.

- (b) I am Indian, very brown, born in Malabar,
I speak three languages, write in
Two, dream in one.

Don't write in English, they said, English is
Not your mother-tongue. Why not leave
Me alone, critics, friends, visiting cousins,
Every one of you? Why not let me speak in
Any language I like?

UNIT—IV

(Indian English Short Stories)

(Marks : 15)

6. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) Critically evaluate how Salman Rushdie has sarcastically thrown light on poor people's sheer plight and deprivation in *The Free Radio*.

(6)

Or

Discuss Rushdie's *The Free Radio* as a satiric commentary on contemporary politics.

(b) Would you agree that the traditional concept of marriage as an institution has been deconstructed by Shashi Deshpande in *The Intrusion*? Justify your answer.

(c) Prepare a detailed note on the portrayal of the life of the Indian common people in Arup Kumar Dutta's short story *The Wilted Flower*.

7. Answer in brief (any one) :

5

(a) Prepare a brief note on the symbolic implication of the radio in Rushdie's story, *The Free Radio*.

(b) Discuss the character of the narrator in Shashi Deshpande's short story, *The Intrusion*.

(7)

(c) Comment on the suitability of the title of Arup Dutta's short story, *The Wilted Flower*.
