

B.A. (Honours) Examination, 2018
Semester-II (CBCS)
English
Course – CC-4 (Core)
(British Poetry and Drama: 14th to 17th Centuries)

Time: Three Hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of equal value

Answer Question No. 1 and *any three* from the rest.

1. (a) Literature from the fourteenth to the seventeenth century is marked by a gradual shift from traditionalism to experimentation. Comment.
Or
(b) Comment on the stage conventions in Renaissance theatre.
 2. Chaucer's General Prologue to the *Canterbury Tales* documents medieval social realities. Justify.
 3. (a) Critically comment on Donne's use of the conceit in his poetry.
(b) Do you think Spenser and Donne write of love in fundamentally differing ways? Give reasons for your response.
 4. How does Shakespeare explore the theme of equivocation in *Macbeth*?
 5. The play *Merchant of Venice* is a study in the economics of love and friendship.
 6. Comment on Dr. Faustus as a modified Morality play.
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B.A. (Honours) Examination, 2019

Semester-II (CBCS)

English

Course – CC -3 (Core)

(Indian Writing in English)

(For Regular and Back Candidates)

Time: Three Hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of equal value

Answer Question No. 1 and *any three* from the rest.

1. a) How would you define Indian fiction in English? Trace the beginning and development of the genre.

OR

- b) Write an essay on the development of Indian English poetry.
2. Comment on the significance of the title of Anita Desai's novel *In Custody*?
3. How does R. K. Narayan use Indian history in *Swami and Friends*? Answer with reference to the text.
4. Is Kamla Das' poetry confessional in nature? Justify your comment with reference to the texts that you have read.
5. Comment on the ways in which Derozio explores and celebrates freedom in all its aspects in his poetry.
6. (a) Discuss the anxieties of alienation of a migrant as depicted in Rohinton Mistry's 'Swimming Lessons'.

or

- (b) "Sashi Deshpande's 'The Intrusion' is a text about sexual exploitation in marriage". Discuss with reference to the story.

or

- (c) Comment on the portrayal of the "thief's widow" in 'The Free Radio'.
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BA (Honours) Examination 2022
Semester II
English
Course: CC-3 (Indian Writing in English)

Time: 3 hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of equal value

Question No. 1 is compulsory. Answer any three from the rest.

1. (a) Early Indian writing in English records the anxieties and excitements of the emergent middle class. How far would you agree? Discuss critically.

Or,

(b) How did the late nineteenth and early twentieth century nationalist sentiment inform the contemporary Indian fiction in English? Answer with instances.

2. Evaluate *Nectar in a Sieve* as a novel of socio-economic realism.

3. It has been argued that the ending of *The Guide* is rather ambiguous. Do you agree? Substantiate your answer.

4. Why and how far would you consider the novels in your syllabus 'Indian'? Answer with reference to the texts.

5. How does Kamala Das's poetry deal with questions of individual and authorial subjectivity? Discuss with reference to the texts taught in the course.

6. Nissim Ezekiel's poetry was shaped by Western as well as Indian sensibilities. How far would you agree? Discuss critically.

BA (Honours) Examination, 2022

English

Semester II

CC- 4: British Poetry and Drama (14th to 17th Century)

Time: Three hours

Full marks: 60

Questions are of equal value

Answer Question No. 1 and any three from the rest

1. a) Why is the Renaissance so called? How did the age perceive the two preceding periods of history?

Or

- b) Discuss the role of humanism in shaping the playwrights and poets of the English Renaissance.
2. Chaucer's Prologue to *The Canterbury Tales* critiques medieval English society, but with empathy. Discuss with reference to any two characters.
3. Elizabethan sonnets struggle with the two dimensions of love, as one-way emotion and as two-way relationship. Discuss with reference to any two sonneteers you have read.
4. Discuss John Donne's poetry as argumentative texts.
5. Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus* mirrors a society in crisis. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
6. Discuss the relationship between money and matrimony in Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*.

BA (Honours) Examination 2023
Semester: II
English
CC 3: Indian Writing in English

Time: 3 hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of equal value

Question No. 1 is compulsory. Answer *any three* from the rest.

1. a) Discuss the shaping influence of the Orientalist project upon the development of Indian Writing in English.

Or,

b) Ambivalence towards westernism and nativism informed much of nineteenth and early twentieth century Indian writings in English. How far would you agree? Give reasons for your answer.

2. A tussle between dominant colonial forces and an emergent nationalist impulse is central to the narrative of *Swami and Friends*. How far is this a valid assessment of the novel? Discuss critically.
3. Discuss the authenticity of the representation of rural society in *Nectar in a Sieve*.
4. Critically comment on the language and form of the novels in your syllabus.
5. Comment on the quest for identity in the two short stories in your syllabus.
6. How do Derozio, Kamala Das and Robin Ngangom's poems mark different stages of the Indian people's negotiation with history? Answer with specific reference to the texts in your syllabus.

B.A. (Honours) Examination, 2023
English
Semester II
CC 4: British Poetry and Drama, 14th to 17th Centuries
(For Regular and Back Candidates)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of equal value

Answer Question No. 1 and *any three* from the rest

1. a) The Renaissance struggles with ideas and social realities that the Middle Ages took for granted. Assess with reference to texts you have read.

Or,

b) How did Elizabethan playhouses and playing conventions shape the drama of the English Renaissance? Discuss in respect of texts in your syllabus.

2. In Chaucer's view, the medieval pilgrimage is a social affair. Discuss with reference to the General Prologue to the *Canterbury Tales*.

3. Analyse the function of comic interludes and their relationship with the main plot in Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus*.

4. a) Write an essay on variety in Elizabethan love-sonnets.

Or,

b) Donne's wit defies politeness. Discuss with reference to the poems you have studied.

5. "Let him look to his bond." Discuss the significance of bonds in Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*.

6. a) For Shakespeare, the witches are far more than mere agents of evil. Would you agree? Argue and illustrate from the text of *Macbeth*.

Or,

b) Compare Portia and Lady Macbeth.

BA Examination, 2024
Semester II (CBCS)
English
CC-3: Indian Writing in English

Time: 3 hours

Full Marks: 60

(For Back and Repeat candidates only)

Questions are of equal value

Question No. 1 is compulsory. Answer *any three* from the rest.

1. a) How far would you consider the novels in your syllabus “Indian”? Give reasons for your answer.
Or
b) Give a brief account of the early development of Indian Writing in English.
2. Discuss how the author combines the innocence of early youth with the complexity of adult politics in *Swami and Friends*.
3. Critically comment on the author’s representation of the contrast between the urban and the rural in *Nectar in a Sieve*.
4. Comment critically on the implications of humour in “The Two Lady Rams.”
5. Discuss the significance of imagery in the poems of any two poets you have read as a part of the syllabus.
6. Indian Writing in English explores the history of colonialism. Would you agree? Discuss critically.

BA Honours Examination 2024
Semester II (CBCS)
CC 4: British Poetry & Drama: 14th to 17th Centuries

(for Back and Repeat Candidates)

Time: 3 hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of equal value

Question No. 1 is compulsory. Answer *any three* from the rest.

1. a) Discuss the function of literature in sixteenth-century England as presented by the texts you have been taught.

Or

- b) Discuss the range of Shakespeare's characters from the play-texts you have studied.
2. What purpose does the General Prologue serve in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*?
3. What kind of changes have you noted in the Elizabethan love sonnets and lyrics from Sidney to Shakespeare? Answer with examples.
4. Both with his beloved and with God, Donne loves to persuade and argue. Do you agree? Justify your response.
5. Comment on the nature of friendship between Antonio and Bassanio.
6. Critically reflect on Shakespeare's presentation of the theme of morality in *Macbeth*.

BA Examination 2024
Semester – II (CBCS)
English
Generic Elective Course (GEC -2)
Contemporary India: Women and Empowerment

Time: 3 hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of equal value.
Attempt question No.1 and any three from the rest.

1. a) Discuss the debates around female education in nineteenth century Bengal.

Or

- b) Education became a very important means for women to empower themselves. Would you agree? Discuss

2. Comment on the idea of the “mardana” in *Sultana’s Dream*.
3. What references to scientific experiments do we have in *Sultana’s Dream*?
4. Discuss the autobiographical elements present in any one of the poems by Kamala Das from your syllabus.
5. Comment on the role of the young girl as a narrator in Ismat Chughtai’s ‘Lihaaf’.
6. Write a brief note on any one of the following:
- a) The ending of *Lihaaf* b) confessional poetry c) feminist utopia

(2)

Undergraduate Examination - 2024
Semester-II
Tagore Studies
(For CBCS Regular and Back candidates)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of value as indicated in the right-hand margin.
Question Number 10 is *compulsory*. Answer any 3 (three) from the rest.

1. Write on two happy experiences as narrated by Tagore in the prose excerpt, "Morning Songs". 10
2. Write in your own words how Tagore elaborates upon his love for the earth in the text "The Earth". 10
3. Discuss the central theme of the essay, "Asrama education". 10
4. Analyse Tagore's views on imparting education through mother tongue in his essay, "Education for Rural India". 10
5. Discuss how Tagore expresses his profound respect for Gandhiji in the prose piece "Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi". 10
6. Elucidate, based on the essay, "Buddhadeva," why Tagore considers Buddhadeva as 'the greatest man ever born on this earth.' 10
7. How are Tagore's contrasting ideas about the 'Indian' and the 'European civilisation' brought out in the essay "The Message of India's History"? 10
8. Discuss Tagore's views, as developed in the essay "Music and Feeling," on the importance of feeling in music. 10
9. Discuss briefly, according to Tagore, the steps needed to spread education in our country in the essay "The Diffusion of Education". 10
10. Answer any *ten* (10) questions from the following in complete sentences. 10×1= 10
 - a) "I love, but I cannot protect." – Whose mind feels thus?
 - b) In "The Message of India's History", is Indian civilization –based on 'negotiation' or a 'sense of harmony'?
 - c) "At one time our rural society was living." In which essay does Tagore say this?
 - d) Name the great personality Tagore calls a man of 'auspicious birth'.
 - e) "He is a man and no machine." Who is here referred to as 'he' by Tagore?
 - f) "Conquer anger by compassion." Tagore quotes this as a message of a great man. Name him.
 - g) "The country at large lies outside the modern school." In which essay does this sentence occur?
 - h) "None but those who have the spirit of forbearance are fit to be teachers." In which text of your syllabus do you find this observation?
 - i) Name the original text from which the excerpt "The Earth" is taken.
 - j) "He never cheated man of the greatest gift that one can give to another – the gift of respect." Who is 'he'?
 - k) "We look for the man after our heart." In which text does this sentence occur?
 - l) "We live in the same country and yet we do not belong to the same country." In which text of yours is this view to be found?
 - m) "... the poem... gushed forth and coursed on like a veritable cascade." Name the poem.
 - n) "It must be borne in mind that the supreme test of manhood lies in battling against inner enemies..." From which essay is this sentence taken?
 - o) In which essay of your textbook, *Introduction to Tagore*, is the *tapovana* of ancient India mentioned?