

**B.A. 2<sup>ND</sup> SEMESTER (HONOURS) EXAMINATION, 2021**

**ENGLISH**

**Course ID: 20312**

**Course Code: AH/ENG/202/C-4**

**(Indian Classical Literature)**

**Time: 2 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

*Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.*

*Answer all the questions.*

**Unit – I**

1. (a) Consider critically Kalidasa's portrayal of Sakuntala in *Abhijnanasakuntalam*. 10  
Or,  
(b) Explain the dramatic significance of the curse of Durvasa in the fourth act of *Abhijnanasakuntalam*.
2. (a) Write a note on the condition of women as found in "The Dicing". 10  
Or,  
(b) How did Kunti persuade Karna to join the side of the Pandavas in the ensuing battle in the "Udyoga Parva" of the *Mahabharata*? Answer with reference to the part prescribed in your syllabus.
3. (a) *Rasa* is often described as the 'soul of poetry' in Indian aesthetics. Do you support this view? Answer with reference to the functions of different *Rasas* in literature. 10  
Or,  
(b) Write an essay on any one of the following short epic traditions of India: 'Pandavani', 'Kirtana', 'Kuttu'.

## Unit – II

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

5x2=10

- (a) How does Duhsanta describe the beauty of Sakuntala to Madhavaya?
- (b) Who found the signet ring in Kalidasa's *Abhijnanasakuntalam* and where?
- (c) How does the Ascetic dissuade King Duhsanta from hunting a deer in the opening scene of the play *Abhijnanasakuntalam*?
- (d) 'O heart, keep calm; Anasuya is asking what I wanted to know' – What did Anasuya ask?
- (e) Comment briefly on King Duhsanta's last speech in *Abhijnanasakuntalam*.
- (f) Why is "Udyoga Parva" so named?
- (g) Who is Saubala and why is he so called?
- (h) 'Choose a boon from me, Pancali, whatever you wish' – What boon did Pancali ask for from the speaker?
- (i) 'You are carrying poisonous snakes on your head, their pouches full of venom!' – Who is warned thus and when?
- (j) Name the place where Kunti met Karna. What was the purpose of her meeting?

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX