

B.A. 2nd Semester (Programme) Examination, 2022

ENGLISH

Course ID: 20318

Course Code: AP/ENG/201/C-1B

Nation, Culture and India

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) Write a critical note on any one of the six arguments presented by Amartya Sen in the essay 'Secularism and its Discontents'. **1x10=10**

Or

- b) Define the nature of secularism and its discontents with reference to Amartya Sen's essay.

2. a) How does Tagore perceive nationalism in the context of India? Explain with reference to 'Nationalism in India'. **1x10=10**

Or

- b) "I am not against one nation in particular, but against the general idea of all nations". – Why does Tagore argue against the West-induced concept of nationalism?

3. a) "There is a first question, whether at all there is really a Renaissance in India". — Comment on Sri Aurobindo's view of Renaissance as detailed in the first part of the essay 'The Renaissance in India'. **1x10=10**

Or

- b) Comment on Sri Aurobindo's style of essay writing with reference to the essay 'The Renaissance in India'.

P.T.O.

4. Answer any five of the following.

5x2=10

- a) Mention the four qualities of the Indian mind as mentioned in the essay 'The Renaissance in India'.
- b) Name two Bengali writers who represent the Renaissance in India according to Sri Aurobindo.
- c) What according to Tagore constitute the differences between America and Europe in the context of nationalism?
- d) What is Renaissance as explained by Sri Aurobindo?
- e) "And again we are confronted with two alternatives". – What are the two alternatives mentioned by Tagore in the essay 'Nationalism in India'?
- f) How does the Indian Renaissance differ from the Western Renaissance in the opinion of Sri Aurobindo?
- g) Why does Tagore consider nationalism to be a great menace?
- h) What according to Sri Aurobindo inspired the "harmony of the ancient Indian culture"?
- i) What does Tagore observe about the "problem of race unity" in India and abroad?
- j) What does Tagore suggest by the "higher instincts" in 'Nationalism in India'?

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX