

M.A. 4th SEMESTER EXAMINATION, 2021

ENGLISH

Course Code: ENG 402ME (B)

Course ID: 40352

(Indian Writing in English II)

Full Marks: 40

Time: 2 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Answer all the questions.

UNIT I

1. Answer any one of the following questions: (1x12=12)

- a) Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines* interrogates the validity of nation, nationalism and nationalist identity with respect to individual stories. Discuss.
- b) Discuss the development of the narrator from being a schoolboy to an adult in the context of his relationship with Ila.
- c) To what extent could the characters of Naranappa and Praneshacharya be construed as counters in a binary? Explore with reference to *Samskara*.
- d) Would you consider the plague consuming Durvasapura an instance of allegory or realism or a bit of both? Explore with reference to *Samskara*.

UNIT II

2. Answer any one of the following questions: (1x12=12)

- a) Discuss how Rushdie elaborates on diasporic consciousness in "Imaginary Homelands".
- b) 'As travellers they are a failure; for they have grown too accustomed to their mental easy-chairs.' In light of the above statement comment on the relationship of East and West as Tagore conceives it in his essay "East and West".
- c) Jhumpa Lahiri once said, 'As a storyteller, I'm aware that there are limitations in communication.' Analyse her short story "Interpreter of Maladies" in the light of this statement.

d) Comment on the significance of the title of Bharati Mukherjee's "A Wife's Story". Would you interpret it literally or ironically? Elucidate with reference to the text.

UNIT III

3. Answer any four of the following short questions:

(4 x 4 = 16)

- a) Comment on the significance of the partition of the ancestral house of Tha'mma and Mayadebi.
- b) Write a short note on Tridib's adda.
- c) Why did not the Brahmins of Durvasapura excommunicate Naranappa?
- d) How do Shripati and Shyama rebel against their guardians in *Samskara*? Why do you think they rebel?
- e) What does Rushdie mean by 'interregnum of the 1980'?
- f) What does Tagore mean when he says 'Our knowledge of foreign people grows insensitive'?
- g) Comment briefly on the Halloween episode in "When Mr. Pirzada came to Dine".
- h) What makes Panna's husband in "A Wife's Story" observe that New York is as full of cheats as Bombay? Explain in brief.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX