

M.A. 4th Semester Examination, 2022

ENGLISH

Course Code: ENG 402 ME (B)

Course ID: 40352

Course Title: *Indian Writing in English and in English Translation II*

Time: 2 hours

Full Marks: 40

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) Do you consider Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines* as a novel of memory? Give suitable reasons.
- b) Examine the role and thematic significance of Tha'mma in Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines*.
- c) Explore the significance of the meeting between Praneshacharya and Chandri in U. R. Ananthamurthy's *Samskara*. How does it revisit a Mahabharata myth?
- d) What are the meanings of the term "samskara" in the classical Indic paradigm? Explore the extent to which U. R. Ananthamurthy's novel accepts or exceeds such meanings.

UNIT II

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

- a) Discuss how Rushdie's 'Imaginary Homelands' deals with issues of social and political plight of an expatriate writer and the subject he writes about.
- b) Discuss with reference to 'East and West' how Tagore advocates the synthesis of the East and the West.

- c) “Mr Kapasi’s transformation from ordinary tour guide to ‘romantic’ interpreter ends poorly.” Justify the title of Jhumpa Lahiri’s ‘Interpreter of Maladies’ in the light of the above observation.
- d) “He’ll sleep like a baby” – Elucidate how Panna’s assessment of her husband becomes a reflective statement of his general understanding of his wife.

UNIT III

3. Answer any four of the following short questions:

4 x 4 = 16

- a) Describe briefly the narrator’s experience of the harrowing bus ride home from school and the importance of the event in his life.
- b) Write a brief note on Ila meeting the narrator in the underground storage room in their family home.
- c) What do you think of U. R. Ananthamurthy’s representation of untouchable women in *Samskara*?
- d) Comment briefly on the plague consuming Durvasapura in *Samskara*. Would you consider it to be exclusively an allegory?
- e) What does Rushdie mean by “cultural transplantation”?
- f) Comment briefly on what Tagore means when he says “The wriggling tentacles of a cold-blooded utilitarianism”.
- g) “Here, in this place where Mr. Sen has brought me, I cannot sometimes sleep in so much silence.” Comment.
- h) Why does Panna’s husband carry a bottle of red peppers in his pocket? How does Panna feel about this?

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