

B.A. Semester-II Examination, 2022-23**ENGLISH [Programme]**

Course ID : 20318 Course Code : AP/ENG/201/C-1B

Course Title : Nation, Culture and India

[NEW SYLLABUS]

Time : 2 Hours

Full Marks : 40

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.**Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.***Answer all the questions.**

1. a) "Our real problem in India is not political. It is social."– Justify Tagore's view with reference to his essay 'Nationalism in India'. 10

OR

- b) "India has never had a real sense of Nationalism". – Comment on the above observation with reference to Tagore's essay 'Nationalism in India'.
2. a) How does Sri Aurobindo define and defend Indian culture in his essay 'The Issue : Is India Civilised'?' 10

OR

- b) How does Sri Aurobindo depict the harmony of mind, body and spirit in his essay 'The Issue : Is India Civilised'?'?
3. a) How does Baburao Bagul illustrate the dilemmas of a mother stuck at the intersectionality of caste and patriarchy in his 'Mother'? 10

OR

- b) Consider Baburao Bagul's 'Mother' as a Dalit text about impossible motherhood.
4. Answer any **five** of the following questions: 5×2=10
- a) "There is only one history".– Whose history does Tagore refer to?
- b) What comprises Indian culture according to Sri Aurobindo, as detailed in his essay 'The Issue : Is India Civilised'?'?
- c) What constitutes the greatest problem of nationalism according to Tagore?
- d) Write a brief note on the context in which Sri Aurobindo wrote his essay on Indian Civilization.
- e) How did Tagore criticize America's problem of race?

- f) What are the markers of a civilisation according to Sri Aurobindo in his essay 'The Issue : Is India Civilised?'?
- g) Comment briefly on Tagore's views on "Nationalism" and "Humanism"?
- h) Why does William Archer refuse to consider India as civilized?
- i) What according to Tagore was the biggest problem India faced from the beginning of its history?
- j) Briefly comment on the second stage of the "spiritual advance of humanity" as mentioned in Sri Aurobindo's essay 'The Issue : Is India Civilised?'.

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Answer all the questions.

1. a) Comment on Amartya Sen's views on the dangers posed by fundamentalism. 10

OR

- b) How does Amartya Sen detail the "Non-existence" critique in his essay?

2. a) "India has never had a real sense of nationalism." – Why does Tagore observe thus in his essay 'Nationalism in India'? 10

OR

- b) "Our real problem in India is not political. It is social." – Comment on the social problems prevalent in India as observed by Tagore.

3. a) "Spirituality is indeed the master-key of the Indian mind".– What does Sri Aurobindo mean by this statement in his essay 'The Renaissance in India'? Discuss. 10

OR

- b) How does Sri Aurobindo describe the first phase of Renaissance in India?

4. Answer any **five** of the following questions: 5×2=10

- a) What is the meaning of "retrogression" according to Sri Aurobindo in 'The Renaissance in India'?
- b) What is it that enamours the West about India, according to Tagore?
- c) Mention any one difference between Indian and European civilizations according to Rabindranath Tagore.
- d) What according to Sri Aurobindo are the three steps by which a transition to the Renaissance may happen?
- e) Why does Tagore say that an automobile does not create freedom of movement?
- f) What do the "ideals of the Indian mind" include according to Sri Aurobindo in 'Renaissance in India'?

- g) "Even in her hour of decline it was the one thing she could never lose". – What is referred to as this "one thing" in 'Renaissance in India'?
- h) Why does Tagore say that the problem with India is more social than political in his essay 'Nationalism and India'?
- i) "The Titaness has not yet arisen".– Comment briefly.
- j) What does Tagore say about the caste system in India in the essay prescribed in your syllabus?
