



'সমানো মন্ত্র: সমিতি: সমানী'

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

B.A. Honours Part-III Examination, 2022

ENGLISH

PAPER-VIII

NEW SYLLABUS

Time Allotted: 4 Hours

Full Marks: 100

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Choose one Option from

Option-I : CLASSICAL LITERATURE

Option-II : INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE

Option-III : AMERICAN LITERATURE

Mention the Option of the special paper on the cover page of the Answer Book

Option-I : CLASSICAL LITERATURE (in translation)

1. Answer the following: 20×4 = 80
- (a) Discuss the function of the Chorus in *Agamemnon*.
- OR**
- (b) Show how one hubris begets another in *Agamemnon*.
- (c) Examine Jocasta as a tragic figure in *Oedipus Rex*.
- OR**
- (d) How far can fate be held responsible for the tragedy of Oedipus in *Oedipus Rex*? Discuss.
- (e) Analyse the character of Jason in *Medea*.
- OR**
- (f) Is the ending of *Medea* more contrived than inevitable? Elaborate.
- (g) Comment on the aptness of the title of *The Birds*.
- OR**
- (h) Critically analyse the elements of humour in *The Birds*.
2. Answer any *four* of the following: 5×4 = 20
- (a) Why does Agamemnon sacrifice his daughter?
- (b) Write a short note on the character of Creon in *Oedipus Rex*.
- (c) Comment on Medea's first monologue.

- (d) Critically analyse the role played by Hecuba in Seneca's *The Trojan Women*.
- (e) Comment on the ending of *The Birds*.
- (f) Why is Juno angry in Book I of the *Aeneid*?

Option-II : INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE

1. Answer *four* questions, taking at least *one* from each group: 20×4 = 80

GROUP-A

- (a) Discuss the contribution of Nissim Ezekiel to Indo-Anglian poetry.

OR

- (b) Critically appreciate Ezekiel's 'Paradise Flycatcher'.
(c) Ramanujan's obsession with past and his roots makes him rely heavily on memory as theme as well as poetic strategy. Discuss.

OR

- (d) Comment on Mahapatra's poetic craft with reference to his poems on your syllabus.

GROUP-B

- (e) Comment on Rushdie's use of magic realism in *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*.

OR

- (f) Examine the women characters in *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*.
(g) Analyse the character and role of Biju in *The Inheritance of Loss*.

OR

- (h) What is the significance of the title of *The Inheritance of Loss*?

GROUP-C

- (i) Would you consider Benare as a new woman? Argue your answer.

OR

- (j) Comment on Tendulkar's use of the play-within-play technique in *Silence! The Court is in Session*.
(k) Consider *Evam Indrajit* as a modern play both in theme and technique.

OR

- (l) Discuss *Evam Indrajit* as an existential play.

2. Answer *four* questions, taking at least *one* from each group: 5×4 = 20

GROUP-A

- (a) What do both poetry and living illustrate for the poet in 'A Poem of Dedication'?
(b) How does the poet feel about stripping himself in 'Highway Stripper'?

GROUP-B

- (c) Briefly comment on the character of Haroun.
- (d) Comment on the character of Noni.

GROUP-C

- (e) How does Miss Benare defend herself?
- (d) Why does Indrajit refer to the tree of knowledge?

Option-III : AMERICAN LITERATURE

1. Answer *four* questions, taking at least *one* from each group: 20×4 = 80

GROUP-A

- (a) Can Whitman be called a mystic poet? Argue your answer.

OR

- (b) Discuss Whitman as a symbolist poet with special reference to the poems on your syllabus.
- (c) Discuss the theme of 'A Supermarket in California'.

OR

- (d) Consider Ginsberg as a modern poet.

GROUP-B

- (e) How does Angelou deal with the politics of race in 'I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings'?

OR

- (f) Trace the growth of Marguerite in 'I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings'.
- (g) *The Scarlet Letter* came out of the very heart of the mid-17th century New England. Discuss.

OR

- (h) Discuss *The Scarlet Letter* as a "sombre romance of conscience".

GROUP-C

- (i) Examine the theme of guilt and responsibility in *The Crucible*.

OR

- (j) Discuss the role and character of John Proctor.
- (k) *Desire Under the Elms* is a play of violence. Discuss.

OR

(1) Comment on the women characters in *Desire Under the Elms*.

2. Answer **four** questions, taking at least **one** from each group:

5×4 = 20

GROUP-A

- (a) Write a note on how the wound dresser feels while visiting the injured soldiers.
- (b) In 'Desert places' what finally scares the poet?

GROUP-B

- (c) How is man 'metamorphosed into many things'?
- (d) Comment on the scene on the scaffold in *The Scarlet Letter*.

GROUP-C

- (e) What Greek myth does O'Neill draw upon in *Desire Under the Elms*?
- (f) Write a short note on the source of *The Crucible*.

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