



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL
B.A. Honours 2nd Semester Examination, 2020

CC3-ENGLISH

INDIAN CLASSICAL LITERATURE AND INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH

Full Marks: 60

ASSIGNMENT

*The questions are of equal value.
The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

1. Answer any *one* of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
 - (a) To what extent do you think Kalidasa's *Abhijnana Shakuntalam* stands out as one of the best instances of a play exemplifying Bharata's theory of 'rasa'? 20
 - (b) Explain the significance of Draupadi's question in 'The Dicing' section of the *Mahabharata*. 20
 - (c) Do you agree with the view that the main reason of the popularity of *Mrchhakatika* is its distinct redefining of love? Elucidate. 20

2. Answer any *one* of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
 - (a) Elaborate how from an initial rival, Rajan has turned into a bosom friend of Swaminathan in *Swami and Friends*. 20
 - (b) Critically examine Anita Desai's engagement with the language politics in *In Custody*. 20

3. Answer any *one* of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
 - (a) Explain how the Indian poets in English have addressed the woman question in their poems, with special reference to those on your syllabus. 20
 - (b) What picture of India do you get from the short stories that are prescribed in your syllabus? 20

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CC4-ENGLISH

BRITISH LITERATURE: OLD ENGLISH PERIOD TO 14TH CENTURY

Full Marks: 60

ASSIGNMENT

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

1. Answer any *one* of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
 - (a) Briefly discuss, in a comparative mode, the contributions of King Alfred and Aelfric to the development of early English prose.
 - (b) The Old English poetry which has received the most attention deals with the Germanic Heroic past — Do you agree? Argue your answer.
 - (c) Illustrate the resurgence of alliterative verse during the so-called 'Alliterative Revival'.

2. Answer any *one* of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
 - (a) Heroic idealism has been brilliantly delineated through the character of Beowulf. Discuss.
 - (b) Do you think that *Beowulf* reveals to us the culture and society of the Germanic peoples? Give a reasoned answer.

3. Answer any *one* of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
 - (a) Consider the Prologue to *The Wife of Bath's Tale* as a critique of patriarchy.
 - (b) Would you consider *Piers the Ploughman* as a theological poem? Elaborate.

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DSC2-ENGLISH

MODERN INDIAN LITERATURE

Full Marks: 60

ASSIGNMENT

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Answer any three of the following questions (700-750 words each) 20×3 = 60

1. Analyse the use of the child narrator in Chughtai's 'Lihaf (The Quilt). 20
2. Discuss the writers and the literary texts that you come across in Ambai's 'Squirrel'. 20
3. Assess V. M. Basheer's art of characterization with reference to 'The Card-Sharp's Daughter'. 20
4. Critically consider the role of cricket in 'The M.C.C.'. 20
5. The present day occurrences in the villages of India can be seen in an embryonic form in 'The Holy Panchayat'. Elucidate. 20
6. Explain the major socio-political issues that are addressed in 'Toba Tek Singh'. 20

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GE2-ENGLISH

SELECTIONS FROM EUROPEAN LITERATURE

Full Marks: 60

ASSIGNMENT

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

1. Answer any *one* of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
- (a) How far has Shakespeare unlocked his heart in his sonnets? Answer with reference to the sonnets on your syllabus.
- (b) Auden in "Autumn Song" portrays autumn as a time of both beauty and bleakness. Elucidate.
- (c) How did Wordsworth describe his experiencing of a 'host of golden daffodils' in "Daffodils"?
2. Answer any *one* of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
- (a) Describe the rise of Oliver as a jeweller.
- OR**
- (b) Bring out the major themes of Orwell's 'Shooting an Elephant'.
- (c) Examine the appropriateness of the title of 'The Magic Shop'.
- OR**
- (d) Comment on the portrayal of Framton Nuttel in 'Open Window'.
3. Answer any *one* of the following questions (700-750 words): 20×1 = 20
- (a) Critically consider the dramatic significance of the 'Sleep-walking Scene' in *Macbeth*.
- (b) Discuss the function of music in *Twelfth Night*.

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