



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL  
B.A. Honours 2nd Semester Examination, 2019

CC3-ENGLISH

INDIAN CLASSICAL LITERATURE AND INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 60

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.  
Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.*

GROUP-A

1. Answer any **one** from the following questions: 10×1 = 10

(a) Write an essay on the discourse of love and marriage in *Abhijnana Shakuntalam*.

OR

(b) Discuss the role of Dushyanta.

(c) How does 'The Temptation of Karna' project Karna as one, completely invulnerable to temptation?

OR

(d) 'The Dicing episode provides a critique of the heroic ideal in *The Mahabharata*'.  
— Critically comment.

(e) Critically analyse the title of *Mṛchhakatika*.

OR

(f) In *Mṛchhakatika*, 'The heroine is not a coy maiden but a public woman who exercises a sexual/social choice by choosing merit over money'. Discuss.

GROUP-B

2. Answer any **one** from the following questions: 10×1 = 10

(a) Critically analyse Swami's character and role in *Swami and Friends*.

OR

(b) Write an essay on the blending of humour and pathos in *Swami and Friends*.

(c) Comment on the portrayal of the women characters in *In Custody*.

OR

(d) Critically discuss Desai's use of irony in *In Custody*.

**GROUP-C**

3. Answer any *two* from the following questions: 5×2 = 10
- (a) How is Sudrak portrayed in the prologue of *Mṛchhakatika*?
  - (b) Why was Shakuntala cursed?
  - (c) Describe the hermitage of Kanva.
  - (d) Why did Karna refuse to be united with the Pandavas?
  - (e) Comment on the ending of *Swami and Friends*.
  - (f) Who or what is in custody in *In Custody*?

**GROUP-D**

4. Answer any *one* from the following questions: 10×1 = 10
- (a) Explore the social message delivered in '*The Orphan Girl*'.
  - (b) Consider Kamala Das as a confessional poet with reference to her poems on your syllabus.
  - (c) Comment on Ezekiel's representation of motherhood in *The Night of the Scorpion*.
  - (d) Critically appreciate Jayanta Mahapatra's *Dawn at Puri*.

**GROUP-E**

5. Answer any *one* from the following questions: 10×1 = 10
- (a) Comment on the comic absurdity in 'Two Lady Rams'.
  - (b) Critically examine '*The Free Radio*' as a short story.
  - (c) Write an essay on the role of the narrator in 'Swimming Lesson'.
  - (d) Critically analyse the title of 'The Intrusion'.

**GROUP-F**

6. Answer any *two* from the following questions: 5×2 = 10
- (a) Comment on the idea of freedom in '*Freedom of the Slave*'.
  - (b) How does Kamala Das describe her Grandmother's house?
  - (c) Comment on the 'desert patch' in '*Enterprise*'.
  - (d) Comment on the central idea of '*Hunger*'.
  - (e) How is the old retired teacher described in '*The Free Radio*'?
  - (f) Comment on 'the game' played by the old man in the lobby.
  - (g) Comment on the ending of '*The Intrusion*'.
  - (h) What was the 'awful domestic predicament' that Lalla Jhinda Ram was thrown into at the conferment of the title of Knighthood?

—x—