



**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL**  
B.A. Programme 1st Semester Examination, 2019

**DSC1-ENGLISH**

**INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY**

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.  
All symbols are of usual significance.*

**Answer any five questions from the following**

12×5 = 60

1. (a) Address the problems of racism in 'Still I Rise'.  
**OR**  
(b) 'All my work is meant to say "You may encounter defeats but you must not be defeated."' Elucidate the above assertion of Maya Angelou with reference to 'Still I Rise'.
2. (a) According to Klein, what is dangerous change in the attitude of corporate sponsors to arts that has taken place in recent years?  
**OR**  
(b) 'This picture of our culture's lost innocence is mostly romantic fiction.' What phrase in the quotation from McAllister describes this 'innocence'? Why does Klein not believe in it?
3. (a) *Joothan* 'transforms an experience of pain into a narrative of resistance'. Discuss.  
**OR**  
(b) What 'decisive turn' did Valmiki's father give to the boy's future?
4. (a) Justify the title of Ismat Chughtai's '*Kallu*'.  
**OR**  
(b) Critically examine the character and role of Mumani Jan.
5. (a) Explain why, according to Virginia Woolf, most women would get excluded from 'the historian's view of the past'.  
**OR**  
(b) What image of Shakespeare's sister do you get from Virginia Woolf's *Shakespeare's Sister*?

6. (a) Consider *The Exercise Book* as a critique of social evils.

OR

(b) Evaluate the character of Pyarimohan in Tagore's *The Exercise Book*.

7. (a) 'I believed that I too was not a joiner'.

How does the narrator position himself in the riot situation? Is he a detached observer or a participant?

OR

(b) 'I was awed by their courage', Ghosh writes of the Bawas and Mrs. Sen. How did they display this courage? Why is Ghosh so impressed? Were they really as courageous as the cook of the Bawa household?

8. (a) Critically appreciate *General, Your Tank is a Powerful Vehicle*.

OR

(b) Consider *General, Your Tank is a Powerful Vehicle* as a poem against oppression.

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