

3 (Sem-2/CBCS) ENG-HG/RC 1/2

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ENGLISH

Paper : ENG-HG/RC-2016/2026

(Honours Generic/Regular Course)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

OPTION—A

(Modern Indian Literature)

Paper : ENG-HG/RC-2016

1. Answer any *ten* of the following questions as directed : 1×10=10

(a) Who was the reason for Angoori's sorrow?

(b) Who is the protagonist in *The Weed* by Amrita Pritam?

(c) In which language has Gopinath Mohanty produced his literary works?

(d) *The Weed* is a/an _____.

(i) short story

(2)

(ii) novel

(iii) poem

(iv) essay

(Choose the correct option)

(e) The story, *Shah Jahan and His Private Army* was originally written in ____.

(Fill in the blank)

(f) Name the writer of the story, *Restless Electrons*.

(g) Angoori is the second wife of Prabhati.

(Write True or False)

(h) The unnamed hero of the story, *Another Community* worked as a clerk in the office of an insurance company.

(Write True or False)

(i) In the poem, *The Voice of the Mountain*, the mountain is like

(i) an old man

(ii) flower

(iii) stream

(Choose the correct option)

(j) *The Felling of the Banyan Tree* was written by ____.

(Fill in the blank)

(k) Who is Angoori?

(l) The story, *The Sky and the Cat* was originally written in _____.

(Fill in the blank)

(m) The anthology of poem titled *The Keeper of the Dead* was written by Keki N. Daruwalla.

(Write True or False)

(n) Who orders the tenants to leave in *The Felling of the Banyan Tree*?

(o) Who is Shah Jahan?

2. Answer any *five* of the following questions :

2×5=10

(a) How were marriages fixed in Angoori's village?

(b) Name the main characters in *The Weed* by Amrita Pritam.

(c) What message does Narayan convey through his story, *Another Community* ?

(d) Why is the hero unnamed in the story, *Another Community* ?

(e) How is the mystique of life explored in the story, *The Sky and the Cat* ?

- (f) Why does the poet compare himself to a Birdwatcher in the poem, *Poet, Lover, Birdwatcher* ?
- (g) How does the speaker of the poem, *Bats* show his disgust for bats?
- (h) How does Mamang Dai represent life in *The Voice of the Mountain* ?

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

5×4=20

- (a) Discuss the character of Angoori.
- (b) What is the irony in the story, *Another Community* by R. K. Narayan?
- (c) What is the theme of the story, *The Somersault* ?
- (d) Discuss the private army as presented in the story, *Shah Jahan and His Private Army*.
- (e) Write a note on the theme of violence in Daruwalla's poems.
- (f) *The Voice of the Mountain* is nothing but the macrocosmic representation of nature's egalitarianism. Discuss.
- (g) Critically examine the thematic concerns of Mahapatra's poems.
- (h) Which is the common thing in the poet, lover and birdwatcher?

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

10×4=40

- (a) The story, *The Weed* is a reflection of two conflicting worlds. Discuss.
- (b) Discuss the journey of the unnamed hero in the story, *Another Community* to save his city from communal violence.
- (c) Discuss the character of Jaga Palei.
- (d) Discuss the theme of *Restless Electrons* .
- (e) The story, *The Weed* has exposed the age-old customs, traditions and superstitious beliefs associated with the lives of people in rural India. Discuss.
- (f) Critically analyze the poem, *Bats*.
- (g) Discuss the post-colonial themes in the poem, *The Abandoned British Cemetery at Balasore*.
- (h) Discuss the significance of animal imagery in the poem, *Wolf*.
- (i) Critically analyze Ezekiel's poem, *Poet, Lover, Birdwatcher*.
- (j) What details of the tree does the poet highlight in the poem, *The Felling of the Banyan Tree?*

OPTION—B

(**Contemporary India : Women and
Empowerment**)

Paper : ENG—HG/RC—2026

1. Answer any *ten* of the following questions as directed : 1×10=10
- (a) When was the All India Women's Conference (AIWC) first founded?
 - (b) In which place did the Chipko movement begin?
 - (c) Who founded the Dasholi Gram Swarajya Sangh (later renamed Dasholi Gram Swarajya Mandal)?
 - (d) Who was the first President of the Indian Women's Association founded in the year 1917?
 - (e) When was the Age of Consent Act passed in British India?
 - (f) According to the Indian Penal Code (IPC), what is the punishment for dowry death?

- (g) Which Article of the Indian Constitution mentions the principle of 'equal pay for equal work for both men and women'?
- (h) Where did Sujata go to identify the body of her son, Brati?
- (i) "The mind and the senses grew hypersensitive in that living with oneself, keen and sharp and cutting like the knife of the surgeon in the morgue or the blade of a bayonet." About whom does the narrator make this statement?
- (j) "... so that she would forget
... the endless
_____ of the sky"
(Fill in the blank)
- (k) Who decides to announce Tuli and Tony's engagement on Brati's birthday, that is, the seventeenth of January?
- (l) According to the poet, what did she eat, while 'cowering beneath' her husband's 'monstrous ego', and became a dwarf?

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- (m) Where is Krishna Sobti's *Zindaginama* set?
- (n) What do the cut flowers in the vases begin to smell of?
- (o) What is the name of the younger brother of Shahji?

2. Answer any *five* of the following questions :

2×5=10

- (a) What does the term 'Zindaginama' in the title of Sobti's novel denote?
- (b) What is female foeticide?
- (c) Why was the Chipko movement so named?
- (d) What is the difference between sex and gender?
- (e) What is the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao scheme?

- (f) According to the poet, whose mind has become like an old playhouse, and who and what made it so?
- (g) Why does Sujata go to meet Somu's mother?
- (h) Write a very brief definition of ecofeminism.
3. Write short notes on any four of the following : 5×4=20
- (a) The setting or milieu in *Zindaginama*
- (b) The title of the poem, *The Old Playhouse*
- (c) Depiction of the city of Kolkata in *Mother of 1084*
- (d) The impact of female foeticide on society, with a particular reference to India
- (e) The social construction of gender
- (f) Sexual Harassment at the Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, Redressal) Act, 2013
- (g) 'Sati' in nineteenth century India
- (h) Patriarchy

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

10×4=40

- (a) How is the husband-wife relationship depicted in *The Old Playhouse*? What does it reveal about society and social mores in India?
- (b) What do you understand by domestic violence? What legal provisions are there in India against domestic violence, and are these provisions adequate? Give a considered answer.
- (c) Examine critically the relationship between Sujata and Brati as it develops during the course of the narrative of *Mother of 1084*.
- (d) Discuss the representation of women in *Zindaginama*.
- (e) How did the Partition affect women in particular? Write a critical note, shedding light on the literary representation of women's experiences of the Partition.
- (f) Write a short essay on the relationship between women and the environment with relevant illustrations.

- (g) Discuss the subject or issue of women's education and its significance in the history of women's movements in India.
- (h) Analyze some of the major issues regarding the social condition or status of women discussed and addressed by reformers in nineteenth century India.

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