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ENGLISH

(Honours Core)

Paper : ENG-HC-6016

(Modern European Drama)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

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

1. Answer the following questions as directed :

1×10=10

- (a) Who wrote the book, *Theatre of the Absurd*?
- (b) Why was Lopakhin called Little Peasant?
- (c) What is Estragon doing at the opening of the play?
- (d) "There was a time, forty-five years ago when the cherries were dried, soaked, pickled, cooked into jam and it used to be... ." Who is the speaker?
- (e) Who are Anya and Varya?

- (f) Where was Henrik Ibsen born?
- (g) When was *A Doll's House* first performed?
- (h) What do you mean by Kolchoz?
- (i) All the characters in the opening scene of *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* address each other by _____.

(Fill in the blank)

- (j) "The sins of the father are visited upon the children." Who says this?

2. Answer the following questions : $2 \times 5 = 10$

- (a) What does Lopakhin plan to do with the Cherry Orchard?
- (b) In what ways is Mrs. Alving radical?
- (c) What do the final lines of the play, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* signify?
- (d) What does the tree symbolize in the play, *Waiting for Godot*?
- (e) Estragon : Which Saturday did he say? Is it Saturday today? Is it not Sunday, (Pause) or Monday (Pause)? It might even be Friday.

What is the significance of these lines in terms of the theme of the play?

3. Answer any four of the following questions : $5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) "All the gestures and devices, which we know as 'Brechtian' are experimental efforts to transform how audiences respond to a staged narrative in order to influence and change interpretations of the world." Justify this statement from your reading of Brecht's, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*.
- (b) Critically comment on the ending of *The Cherry Orchard*.
- (c) "The stick and watch are symbols of Lopakhin's divided personality." Discuss the validity of the statement.
- (d) The title *Ghosts* suggests that Mrs. Alving's struggle to alter her circumstances is bound to fail. Discuss.
- (e) Critically comment on the Pozzo-Lucky relationship in *Waiting for Godot*.
- (f) "And I've got this, joy of life too, Mrs. Alving—in me!"
Who is the speaker? What light do these words throw on the theme of the play?

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

10×4=40

- (a) Discuss how theatre can plead for social change with reference to a play prescribed in your course.
- (b) Analyse *Ghosts* as a naturalistic play. Would you agree that Ibsen moved beyond the ideology of naturalism?
- (c) Time is a fundamental concern in Beckett's play, *Waiting for Godot*. Discuss.
- (d) Would you regard Madame Ranevskaya and Gayeff as tragic or comic characters? Give a reasoned answer.
- (e) Critically comment on the breakdown of language in *Waiting for Godot*.
- (f) "Azdak's main purpose is to upset those social norms for the audience so that we may challenge our own beliefs and truths." Comment on the role of Azdak in the light of this statement.
- (g) How do you analyse Grusha's character? Give a justified answer.
- (h) Comment on the orphanage as a key symbol in Ibsen's *Ghosts*.

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2023

ENGLISH

(Honours Core)

Paper : ENG-HC-6026

(Postcolonial Literatures)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer the following as directed : $1 \times 10 = 10$

(a) What did Okonkwo bring home from his trip to Mbaino?

(b) Angela Vicario's father could not _____ (talk/walk/see).

(Choose the correct option)

(c) Who is Paul Theoblo's wife?

(d) Why does Nana criticize the narrator's legs?

(e) In which book was Grace Ogot's story, *The Green Leaves* published first?

(f) What is the most important item in *Bride-Bride*?

(g) To which country did Pablo Neruda belong?

(h) A wind is ruffling the _____ pelt.
(Fill in the blank)

(i) Who is the poet of the poem, *Wild Lemons*?

(j) What is the speciality of Kirhupfumia women?

2. Answer the following as directed : $2 \times 5 = 10$

(a) How did the villagers feel about the coming of the locusts and what did they do about it?

(b) How does Nyagar die in the story, *The Green Leaves*?

(c) What do the words 'moubain' and 'cerise' mean in the poem, *Names*?

(d) That year I had _____ to go, I fell in _____.

(Fill in the blanks)

(e) Name the two sisters Vilie meets.

3. Answer any *four* from the following questions : $5 \times 4 = 20$

(a) Write briefly on the theme of honour and its relation to the foretold death of Santiago.

(b) Why, according to the story of Aidoo, school is a waste for women? Comment.

(c) Write a short description of Arjie's life at Victoria Academy.

(d) Explain the following lines with reference to the context :

Solar stone, pure among the regions
Of the world, Spain streaked
With blood and metal, blue and victorious
Proletarian Spain, ...

(e) Write briefly on how the Mau Mau Rebellion sets the context of the poem, *A Far Cry from Africa*.

(f) Justify the title of Easterine Kire's *When the River Sleeps*.

4. Answer the following questions : $10 \times 4 = 40$

(a) "Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* depicts the changes of familial and religious values under cultural colonialism." Do you agree? Give a well-reasoned answer.

Or

Discuss the significance of the title of *A Collector of Treasures*.

(b) Analyze the character of Nyagar in *The Green Leaves*.

Or

Examine Selvadurai's exploration of 'self' in his novel, *Funny Boy*.

(c) How do you access Pablo Neruda as a poet of love and reminiscence? Discuss by situating him in the postcolonial literary context.

Or

Do you think in Derek Walcott's poetry the spirit of decolonization is inextricably bound with the ideas of racism and acceptance of hybrid identity? Critically analyze.

(d) Can we read David Malouf as a poet who focuses primarily on memory and nostalgia in his poetry? Examine in the context of the prescribed poems.

Or

Write a comprehensive note on the various facets of postcolonial literature citing examples from texts that you have read.
