

3 (Sem-6/CBCS) ENG HE 5

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ENGLISH

(Honours Elective)

Paper : ENG-HE-6056

(Life Writing)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

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

1. Answer the following questions : 1×10=10

- (a) In which year was Rousseau born?
- (b) Who was Bailey in Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*?
- (c) What made Gandhi ashamed of himself during his visit to South Africa?
- (d) What was the address of Binodini's grandmother's house in Calcutta that later came to her possession?
- (e) What role did Binodini play in *Sadhabar Ekadashi* when it was staged at Lahore?
- (f) In Which language was Ismat Chughtai's *A Life in Words : Memoirs* originally written?

- (g) Who is Doraisamy in *The Truth about Me : A Hijra Life Story*?
- (h) Give the Marathi title of Limbale's autobiography, *The Outcaste*.
- (i) Name the game played by the Wani and Brahmin boys during the picnic.
- (j) Where do Richard and his family move to after the house burns down?

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

- (a) Mention the names of any two books that Rousseau read during his childhood.
- (b) Comment on Gandhi's views on physical education as revealed in his autobiography, *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*.
- (c) What kind of treatment is meted out to Revathi at school?
- (d) Give a short introduction of Limbale.
- (e) Write a note on the portrayal of family in Richard Wright's *Black Boy*.

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

$5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) Write briefly about Rousseau's depiction of his mother's character in his autobiography, *Confessions*.

- (b) What aspects of Reverend Howard Thomas's personality are revealed in *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*?
- (c) Critically comment on Gandhi's candid revelations about his marriage.
- (d) Comment on Chughtai's religious beliefs as expressed in his autobiography, *A Life in Words : Memoirs*.
- (e) Comment on the significance of the title of *The Outcaste*.
- (f) Describe the circumstances that led to the burning of Wright's house.

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

- (a) Write an essay on Rousseau's prose style as revealed in the prescribed chapter of his autobiography, *Confessions*.

Or

Critically comment on Maya Angelou's treatment of the themes of racism, gender and identity in her autobiography, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

- (b) Would you consider Gandhi's autobiography as an appropriate example of the genre of life writing? Substantiate your views with textual evidence.

Or

Critically comment on Chughtai's childhood beliefs about religion and gender as revealed in her autobiography, *A Life in Words : Memoirs*.

- (c) Write an essay on Binodini Dasi's contribution to the 19th century Bengali theatre from your reading of her autobiography, *My Story and My Life as an Actress*.

Or

The Truth about Me : A Hijra Life Story shows that the shaping of gender identities is always through a process of violence. Discuss.

- (d) Richard Wright's autobiography, *Black Boy* is a poignant and disturbing record of social injustice and human suffering. Discuss with textual evidence.

Or

Do you agree with the view that Dalit autobiographies narrate sagas of dispossession and resistance? Discuss with reference to Limbale's autobiographical novel, *The Outcaste*.

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ENGLISH

(Honours Elective)

Paper : ENG-HE-6066

(Writings from North-East India)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

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

1. Answer the following questions (any ten) :

1×10=10

(a) Who is the mother of U. Thlen?

(b) Who is Mut-li-tyu?

**(c) Why was the earthenware pot made by
Itbu-moo?**

**(d) What is the meaning of the word
'mythos'?**

(2)

- (e) What did the old man Sashi tell his grandson when the latter came back to the house?
- (f) Why did Rahim leave his wife Julekha?
- (g) How did the man with the mace look like in the story, *Audition*?
- (h) Which call of Gandhi had a strange and fascinating appeal to Bordoloi?
- (i) What, according to Moji Riba, does Arunachal epitomise?
- (j) What is Amona?
- (k) What, according to Devakanta Barua, is the title of the painting that hangs above his table?
- (l) Who is Monimala in the short story, *Spring in Hell*?

(3)

- (m) In the fields
The paddy was passing into _____.
(Fill in the blank)
- (n) Name Itlur's child who is known to move whenever any event of significance occurs.
- (o) Why was Ka Kma Kharai cursed with a deformed demon?
- (p) Who is the playwright of *Aahar*?

2. Answer any five of the following questions :

2×5=10

- (a) What does the old man's neighbour inform Sashi about his friend Imlikokba?
- (b) What is mopin? When is it celebrated?
- (c) What is the reason for the separation between Sankar and Monimala?
- (d) How does the poet portray the aging of Baje through his movements?

- (e) "Stories are but a small part of vast oral tradition." How?
- (f) How, according to Lepcha myth, the first man and woman were told to live as? Where were they placed?
- (g) What inspires the young man to write poetry and sing songs? Did Prafulla take part in these?
- (h) Why did Bordoloi seek Bapuji's permission to write the latter's life?

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

5×4=20

- (a) What happened to the number of offsprings born out of the forbidden union in *The Story of Creation*?
- (b) Narrate briefly Sashi's condition after he reached his friend's house who recently passed away.
- (c) Do you believe that Thlen was an evil creature of supernatural world? Justify your answer.

- (d) How does the poet portray the passing away of Boju?
- (e) Explain briefly the life of the subaltern in the story, *Spring in Hell*.
- (f) What made Prafulla take his 'Bhisma Pratigya'? What made him break his 'Bhisma Pratigya' towards the end?
- (g) How does a nyibo's life get changed once he is appointed?
- (h) Discuss briefly how the playwright has dealt with the theme of hunger by interweaving different dimensions in the play, *Aahar*.

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

10×4=40

- (a) Consider *The Story of Creation* as a symbolic narrative of how the world began and also the people inhabiting the world.
- (b) "Nurturing of evil and an indomitable inclination towards greed determines U. Thlen's move towards the depraved road." Elaborate.

- (c) Describe in your own words the friendship of Sashi and Imli as narrated to his grandson Moa.
- (d) How does the Tani group of people preserve their traditional beliefs and practices in the face of modernisation?
- (e) Critically comment on the title of the story, *Spring in Hell*.
- (f) Narrate Prafulla's experience of giving an audition inside the studio.
- (g) Discuss *Aahar* as an absurd play.
- (h) How does Bhandari present that time remains unaffected whereas, the only passing that takes place is the physical state of things in the poem, *Time Does Not Pass*?
- (i) In *Reminiscences of Gandhi*, Bordoloi has presented accounts of Gandhi through different lenses, public, personal and historical. Discuss.

- (j) In *We Open the Gates*, how does the poet create a rich canvas of spaces combining the symbolic, the surreal and the imaginary?
