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3 (Sem-6/CBCS) ENG HE 3

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ENGLISH

(Honours Elective)

Paper : ENG-HE-6036

(**Partition Literature**)

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) Name the husband of Mallika.
- (b) For how many years did the narrator's grandmother served in the school in *The Shadow Lines*?
- (c) In which year did Alam's father decide to give up his medical practice?
- (d) What is the name of the lunatic who declared that he was Muhammad Ali Jinnah?

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- (e) What did the oil painting in Alam's house depict?
- (f) To how many women did Ayesha give shelter in her house?
- (g) Which bird calls from the silk-cotton tree?
- (h) Who, according to the poet, are free to roam?
- (i) Where will the poet go to meet Toba Tek Singh's Bishan?
- (j) Who asked Shesh to go inside the earth?

2. Answer the following questions : 2×5=10

- (a) Who were killed along with Tridip in the mob attack?
- (b) How did the inhabitants of Rupnagar learn for the first time that electricity had come to their town?
- (c) Why were the two Anglo-Indian lunatics worried?
- (d) In what forms does Jibanananda Das want to come back to Bengal?
- (e) Name any two persons who had arrived butchered at Wagah?

(3)

3. Answer any four of the following questions :
5×4=20

- (a) Lalithambika Antharjanam's story, *A Leaf in the Storm* explores the abuse and emotional turmoil of people during the time of partition. Explain.
- (b) Comment on the theme of nostalgia in Dibyendu Palit's story, *Alam's Own House*.
- (c) Discuss the relationship between Tridip and May.
- (d) Briefly discuss the use of Indian mythology as a literary device in *Basti*.
- (e) How does Faiz Ahmad Faiz engage with the question of nationalism in his poem, *For Your Lanes, My Country*? Discuss.
- (f) How does the poet Jibanananda Das use nature to convey his love for Bengal?

4. Answer any four of the following questions :
10×4=40

- (a) Attempt a critical understanding of the narrative technique of Intizar Hussain's *Basti* with special reference to the significance of memory as implicit in the text.

- (b) Elaborate with illustrations from the text how *The Shadow Lines* interrogates the concept of nations and borderlines.
- (c) Do you think that the poem, *I Shall Return to This Bengal* articulates the poet's fond memory and longing for his lost homeland?
- (d) Attempt a critical appreciation of Gulzar's poem, *Toba Tek Singh*.
- (e) *The final Solution* and *A Leaf in the Storm* foreground the female body as a site for political and sexual context. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
- (f) Discuss how Saadat Hasan Manto depicts the psychological trauma of the partition through the predicament of Bishan Singh in his story *Toba Tek Singh*.
- (g) Elaborate how the house has been used as a metaphor in Dibyendu Palit's story, *Alam's Own House*.
- (h) Discuss how Faiz Ahmad Faiz engages with the question of nationalism in his poem, *For Your Lanes, My Country*.

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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) What role did Binodini play in *Sadhabar Ekadashi* when it was staged at Lahore?
 - (b) Who is the narrator of *The Truth About Me : A Hijra Life Story*?
 - (c) Who was Bailey in Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*?
 - (d) What made Gandhi ashamed of himself during his visit of South Africa?
 - (e) Write the Marathi title of Limbale's autobiography, *The Outcaste*.

- (f) Where do Richard and his family move to after the house burns down?
- (g) Who is Doraisamy in *The Truth About Me : A Hijra Life Story*?
- (h) In which year was Richard Wright's *Black Boy* written?
- (i) Who was Bernard mentioned in *Confessions*?
- (j) Write the name of the game played by the boys of the narrator's caste during the picnic as mentioned in *The Outcaste*.

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

- (a) What kind of treatment is meted out to Revathi at school?
- (b) Comment on the idea of racism as expressed in *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.
- (c) How is the family in Richard Wright's *Black Boy* portrayed?
- (d) Comment on Chughtai's participation in Janmashtami at Lataji's house.
- (e) Discuss briefly about Gandhi's married life from your reading of *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*.

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

$5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) Discuss the significance of the title of *The Outcaste*.
- (b) Write a note about trans-sexuality from your reading of Revathi's *The Truth About Me : A Hijra Life Story*.
- (c) Write a note on Rousseau's depiction of his mother's character in his autobiography, *Confessions*.
- (d) How is the condition of marginalized women in the late nineteenth century Bengal expressed in *My Story and My Life as an Actress*?
- (e) Critically comment on Gandhi's candid revelations about his marriage.
- (f) Write a note on the character of M. Lamercier.

4. Answer any four of the following questions :

$10 \times 4 = 40$

- (a) Critically examine Gandhi's autobiography as an appropriate example of the genre of life writing. Substantiate your answer with textual reference.

- (b) Discuss how Richard Wright depicts the themes of poverty, hunger and racism in his autobiography, *Black Boy*.
- (c) Elaborate the themes of racism, gender and identity in Maya Angelou's autobiography, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.
- (d) Comment on Gandhi's portrait as revealed in the prescribed sections of his book, *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*.
- (e) *The Truth About Me : A Hijra Life Story* shows that the shaping of gender identities is always through a process of violence. Discuss.
- (f) Discuss Binodini Dasi's personality from her book, *My Story and My Life as an Actress*.
- (g) Discuss how the sagas of dispossession and resistance are narrated in Limbale's autobiographical novel, *The Outcaste*.
- (h) Write a note on the theme of institutional Church in *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

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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 : 1×10=10

- (a) What is Rum-lyang?**
- (b) Who blocked the flow of Rongnyik and Rong-nyu?**
- (c) Who was Thlen?**
- (d) What is the name of the old man Sashi's friend who has passed away during the night?**

- (e) What was the name of the man who called Himadri when the latter was about to enter the lane?
- (f) What was the greatest ambition of Prafulla?
- (g) Who, according to Bordoloi, was the greatest lieutenant of Gandhiji in Assam?
- (h) Whose painting hangs above his table, according to Devakanta Barua?
- (i) According to Moji Riba, how many major tribes exist in Arunachal Pradesh?
- (j) Where, according to Ajit Barua, does his soul's delight lie?

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

- (a) Who, according to the Lepchas, were the first man and woman?
- (b) Who was the mother of Thlen? Why did his mother flee from her home?
- (c) What were the last words of Sashi to his dead friend?
- (d) Why did Dipak find it difficult to manage a role for Prafulla?
- (e) What do the words 'Baje' and 'Boju' mean in the poem, *Time Dose Not Pass*?

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

$5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) How was Suidnoh instrumental in the death of Thlen?
- (b) Narrate in your own words the transformation of Julekha to Julie in the story, *Spring in Hell*.
- (c) What was Prafulla's Bhisma Pratigya? Why did he take the Bhisma Pratigya and under what circumstances did he break it?
- (d) Narrate Bordoloi's account of the first visit of Mahatma Gandhi to Assam.
- (e) How does Bhandari deal with the theme of 'Aging' in the poem *Time does not Pass*?
- (f) Comment critically on the title of the play *Aahar*.

4. Answer any four of the following questions :

$10 \times 4 = 40$

- (a) Narrate how U Thlen : the Man-Eating serpent present the interface between the human and the non-human world.
- (b) How does Tashi Chopel's *The Story of Creation* present the creation myth of the Sikkimish people that form their world view?

- (c) Discuss how *An Old Man Remembers* chronicles the struggles of the Naga people for their identity and dignity through the memory of Sashi the old man.
- (d) How does Ajit Barua present the harmonious coexistence of the human world with the natural world in his poem, *Lovely is My Village 1 and 2*?
- (e) "Gopinath Bordoloi's recollection of his experiences with Mahatma Gandhi provides us a broad picture of the situation in India in general and Assam in particular in the preceding years of independence." Discuss.
- (f) Give a character sketch of the woman in the play, *Aahar*.
- (g) According to Moji Riba, the advent of progress and modernisation has influenced the people's attitude towards their traditional rituals, religion and celebration of festivals. Comment critically on this.
- (h) Discuss how in the poem *We Open the Gates* the poet Devakanta Barua deals with the theme of identity.

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