

2024

ENGLISH
(Honours Elective)

Paper : ENG-HE-5016

(Popular Literature)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

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

1. Answer the following questions : $1 \times 10 = 10$

- (a) Whom does Harry meet during his first visit to the Leaky Cauldron?
- (b) What is the nationality of Hercule Poirot?
- (c) Who forgot to deliver Ambedkar's letter to his father telling him of their plan to visit?

Or

(For Visually Challenged Students)

When did Ambedkar write his autobiographical sketches compiled in *Autobiographical Notes*?

(2)

- (d) What is the White Rabbit's catch phrase?
- (e) Before his death, what did Mr. Ackroyd tell Flora about Mr. Poirot?
- (f) What game does Alice play in *Alice in Wonderland*?
- (g) While hiding in the classroom, Harry notices a large mirror. What is the mirror called?
- (h) Who first noticed Mr. Ackroyd's death?
- (i) How old was Harry when he found out that he was a wizard?
- (j) How does Alice get into Wonderland?

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

- (a) Who is Ralph Paton? Why is he suspected of murdering Roger Ackroyd?
- (b) How does Alice shrink and grow?
- (c) Why did Ambedkar have to wait at Kamathi Baug public garden?

Or

(For Visually Challenged Students)

Why did the children remain in the Railway Station at Masur?

(Continued)

(3)

- (d) Why don't the Dursleys tell Harry about his parents?
- (e) What did Alice see on standing up from the pile of dry leaves?

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

$5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) Discuss the role of the Queen of Hearts in *Alice in Wonderland*.
- (b) Following Rowling, discuss Harry Potter's initiation into the magical world.
- (c) Critically comment on the role of Caroline in the novel, *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*.
- (d) How does the death of his parents influence Harry's character and the decisions that he makes over the course of the book?
- (e) Critically comment on the title of *Alice in Wonderland*.
- (f) Comment critically on the title of the graphic novel, *Bhimayana : Experiences of Untouchability*.

Or

(For Visually Challenged Students)

Comment on any one instance describing the discrimination faced by Ambedkar as discussed in *Bhimayana : Experiences of Untouchability*.

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

- (a) What is Popular Literature? Discuss *Alice in Wonderland* as popular literature.
- (b) Discuss the role of fate and destiny in Harry's life in *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*.
- (c) Comment critically on the use of the first-person narrative in *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*.
- (d) Discuss the significance of Dumbledore's relationship with Harry.
- (e) Evaluate Poirot's techniques and strategies of investigation in *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*.
- (f) Critically comment on Alice's growth in *Wonderland*, focussing on the key events that shape her personality.

- (g) What is Mahad Satyagraha? How did Ambedkar observe the second Mahad Satyagraha in *Bhimayana : Experiences of Untouchability*? Discuss what they did during the Satyagraha.

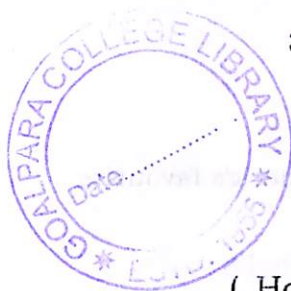
Or

(For Visually Challenged Students)

Discuss how Ambedkar's *Auto-biographical Notes* reflects upon caste-based oppression and marginalization.

- (h) Examine how the coming-of-age theme is explored in *Alice in Wonderland* and *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, taking into account the differing contexts of the two texts.





3 (Sem-5/CBCS) ENG HE 3

2024

ENGLISH

(Honours Elective)

Paper : ENG-HE-5036

(Literature of the Indian Diaspora)

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) Who is Pipa in *The Book of Secrets*?
- (b) The diary entries in *The Book of Secrets* stop abruptly in the year _____.
(Fill in the blank)
- (c) Name the Indian diasporic community mentioned in *The Book of Secrets*.
- (d) Who is the only bachelor mentioned in Chapter 3 of *Anita and Me*?
- (e) Meena resisted all her mother's attempt to teach her—What is it that Meena's mother wanted to teach her?

(2)

- (f) As a child, what was Maneck's favourite day of the week?
- (g) Who is Maxine?
- (h) *A Fine Balance* by Rohinton Mistry is set during the _____ in 1975-77 in India.
(Fill in the blank)
- (i) What does Ashoke give to Gogol for his fourteenth birthday?
- (j) Ashoke and Ashima Ganguli were born in _____.
(Fill in the blank)

2. Give very brief answers to the following questions : $2 \times 5 = 10$

- (a) Why was Mariamu's marriage strained after the birth of her son?
- (b) What did Mr. Christmas's death remind Meena's parents of?
- (c) Why didn't Meena's parents have a shrine in their home?
- (d) How is Ashima affected by Ashoke's death?
- (e) Who is Nusswan?

(3)

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

$5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) What is the significance of the title, *The Book of Secrets*?
- (b) How did the children in the novel, *Anita and Me* get exposed to the forbidden secrets of the adult world?
- (c) How does Daljit and Shyam's relation portray the meaning of love and marital bliss for Meena?
- (d) How does Dina's position within her family reflect the position of women in her culture and social class?
- (e) Comment on Ashima's feeling of alienation in *The Namesake*.
- (f) Analyze, in your own words, Rohinton Mistry's take on the Emergency as revealed in the narrative of *A Fine Balance*.

4. Answer any four of the following questions :

$10 \times 4 = 40$

- (a) Analyze *The Book of Secrets* as an Indian diasporic novel. Give illustrations from your reading of the novel.

- (b) Critically comment on the fragmented nature of history in Vassanji's *The Book of Secrets*.
- (c) Discuss how the individual is affected by the larger socio-political changes in the public sphere in *A Fine Balance*.
- (d) "The novel gives us a vivid picture of life for members of the untouchable caste in remote villages." Elucidate the statement in the light of your reading of *A Fine Balance*.
- (e) Critically evaluate the Meena-Sam lowbridge relationship in *Anita and Me*.
- (f) How does Meena deal with cultural hybridity and identity crisis in the novel, *Anita and Me*?
- (g) Make an assessment of Gogol's identity crisis and his transformation in Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake*.
- (h) "Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake* explores the experiences of second-generation Indian immigrants in the United States." Give a well-reasoned answer in the light of this statement.

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