

2026

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : ENG0600104

(Women's Writing)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ hours

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

1. Answer all the questions in a sentence : $1 \times 8 = 8$

- (a) During which historical event is the novel, *Little Women* set?
- (b) Which physical garment does the speaker Kamala Das reject to defy gender norms?
- (c) To whom is the sonnet, "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways" addressed?
- (d) What does the 'soul' in the poem, *The Soul selects her own Society* do once it has made its choice?

- (e) What did Marie Curie deny throughout her life?
- (f) What is the primary subject of the letter to Lady Mar, April 1, 1717?
- (g) Who was Mary Martin?
- (h) Which imaginary world do Emily and Ann discuss in the July 30th 1845 diary entry?

2. Answer any six of the following questions :

2×6=12

- (a) Define ecofeminism.
- (b) Define black feminism.
- (c) "I speak three languages, write in two, dream in one." Explain.
- (d) Explain the metaphor, 'hungry haste of rivers' written by Kamala Das.
- (e) Explain the phrase 'her body bombarded for years by the element', written by Rich.
- (f) Why is Jo March considered a rebellious character in Alcott's, *Little Women*?
- (g) How does Shug Avery change Celie's life in the work, *The Colour Purple*?

- (h) What is the 'third stage' or 'stage of life' reflected in Emily Bronte's *Diary Haworth*, Thursday July 30, 1845?
- (i) What is the poetic form of "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways"?
- (j) How does Toru Dutt describe her life in Calcutta (Baugmaree) in her letters?

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

5×4=20

- (a) How does Padmanabhan critique the urban middle class in *Lights Out*?
- (b) What is realistic about Dickinson's idea of selecting companions in *The Soul selects her own Society*?
- (c) Analyze the literary style and themes of the *Turkish Embassy Letters*.
- (d) Discuss the key issues addressed by the second wave of feminism.
- (e) Write a short note on Gynocriticism.
- (f) What is the impact of gender roles on characters, narratives and reader's understanding in the texts mentioned in your syllabus?

(g) Critically examine the title of Adrienne Rich's poem, *Power*.

(h) Discuss the theme of love as an eternal or spiritual experience in Sonnet 43 of Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

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

10×2=20

(a) Discuss the role of relationships between women as a means of overcoming patriarchal oppression in the novel, *The Color Purple*.

(b) Discuss the character of Jo March as a representative of the New Woman in the 1860s.

(c) Analyze the role of patriarchy in *Lights Out*.

(d) Write a critical note on Kamala Das' poem, *An Introduction* as a manifesto for feminist independence.

(e) Discuss the evolution of feminism through its three waves with special reference to the writers mentioned in your syllabus.

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1 (Sem-6/FYUGP) ENG 62 MJ

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ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : ENG0600204

(Literature and the Environment)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ hours

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

1. Answer the following as directed : 1×8=8

(a) According to Bacon, _____ first planted a garden.

(Fill in the blank)

(b) What, according to White, destroys the finer fruits of a garden?

- (c) What surrounds the shores of Walden Pond?
- (d) Who is the narrow fellow in the grass?
- (e) In *The Wood-Pile*, the wood-pile "warms the frozen swamp with the slow smokeless burning of ____."
- (i) dry moss
- (ii) decay
- (iii) a greenhouse
- (iv) neglect

(Fill in the blank with correct option)

- (f) The song of the Solitary Reaper was compared to
- (i) a lark and a sparrow
- (ii) a nightingale and a cuckoo
- (iii) a thrush and a swallow
- (iv) a robin and a dove

(Choose the correct option)

- (g) How did the snake come to the water-trough?
- (h) Who is the narrator in *The Living Mountain*?

2. Answer any six of the following questions :

2×6=12

- (a) What are the two types of fountains described by Bacon?
- (b) Why, according to White, did travellers assert that they never ate a good apple or apricot in the South of Europe?
- (c) Mention two themes of the essay, *Ponds*.
- (d) How does the speaker feel about the narrow fellow?

- (e) Where does the speaker find himself at the opening of the poem, *The Wood-Pile*, and what is the weather like?
- (f) Where did the poet see the Solitary Reaper? What was she doing when he saw her?
- (g) Why does the poet decide to stand and wait till the snake has finished drinking? What does this tell you about the poet?
- (h) Who are the Adepts in *The Living Mountain*?
- (i) In *The Living Mountain*, what was the plan of the dreamers? Why did the villagers oppose to the plan?
- (j) Who is the protagonist of *Son of the Thundercloud*? Why did he leave his village?

(Continued)

3. Write short notes on any four of the following : 5×4=20

- (a) Anthropocentrism
- (b) Ecocriticism
- (c) Climate change
- (d) The probable themes of the song sung by the Solitary Reaper
- (e) Dickinson's treatment of fear, deceit and the unknown in the poem, *A narrow Fellow in the Grass*
- (f) The 'Prince-like' gardens discussed by Bacon in *Of Gardens*
- (g) The legend about how Walden Pond was created
- (h) Significance of *The Living Mountain*

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

10×2=20

- (a) White opens the letter (LXIV) by comparing summer and winter as subjects of natural observation, suggesting he will be 'more concise' about summer heat than he has been about winter cold. Considering the letter as a whole, discuss how White structures and develops his account of the hot summers of 1781 and 1783. In your answer, consider how he moves between personal experience, practical gardening advice, scientific explanation, and local geography.
- (b) How does Easterine Kire blend Naga mythology with contemporary ecological concerns in her novella, *Son of the Thundercloud*?
- (c) "The poem, *The Solitary Reaper*, beautifully illustrates how solitude and imagination intertwine to create a profound emotional experience." Critically comment.

- (d) Discuss how *The Living Mountain* explores the relationship between humans and nature. What message does Amitav Ghosh convey about ecological balance and spiritual connection to the environment?
- (e) " *The Wood-Pile* ... evokes the loss or abandonment of home, the threat and fragility of human life with extinction, and the difficulty of country life." Explore the poem in the light of this statement.

1 (Sem-6/FYUGP) ENG 63 MJ

2 0 2 6

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : ENG0600304

(North-East Indian Literature)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ hours

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

1. Answer the following as directed : 1×8=8

(a) Who is the poet of *Forest*-1987?

(b) In the poem *Native Land*, the poet talks of losing his 'tenuous humanity', by which he means a state where the essential qualities of being human are

(i) weak and fragile

(ii) strong

(iii) robust

(iv) tough

(Choose the correct option)

- (c) How does the poet describe the flute player?
- (d) According to Mamang Dai, in the language of Adis the word 'Pensam' means
- (i) the middle ground or the hidden spaces of the heart
 - (ii) the narrow boat that we call life
 - (iii) the remote village in Arunachal Pradesh
 - (iv) the land of the dawn lit mountains
- (Choose the correct option)
- (e) Who is the protagonist of *No Land Is Her Land* ?
- (f) How did Kuhila Bai's son die?
- (g) Who is the narrator of the story, *An Old Man Remembers* ?
- (h) Where did the narrator meet Nilotpal at the beginning of the story *Gogoponti Lakratua* ?

2. Answer any six of the following questions :

2×6=12

- (a) According to the poem *Forest-1987*, what familiar sounds does the speaker miss?
- (b) What, according to Nongkynrih, are the morning sounds of home?
- (c) What does the poet dream of while listening to the flute player?
- (d) Why did the people banish Pinyar, the widow, after her house caught fire?
- (e) Which is the native place of the protagonist of the story *No Land Is Her Land* ? Where did she take refuge?
- (f) What does the old man's neighbour inform Sashi about his friend Imlikokba?
- (g) After the death of her husband, how did Kuhila Bai manage to survive with her son?

(4)

(h) Why was the narrator surprised to see Nilotpal?

(i) Why did Nilotpal go to the bank?

(j) Name two important female characters of *The Legends of Pensam*, and mention one defining trait of each.

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

5×4=20

(a) The *Madhavi* flower's fragrance is described as escaping 'the rustle of spring air' only to be overcome by gunpowder. Analyse this image as a representation of nature's vulnerability in the face of human conflict as presented in the poem, *Forest-1987*.

(b) How does the poem *Native Land* depict the suffering faced by the native Manipuri people and also their unwavering endurance in the face of ethnic or political conflict?

(5)

(c) Discuss the impact of modernity on the Adi community as depicted in *The Legends of Pensam*.

(d) How does the story *An Old Man Remembers* portray the effects of war on families?

(e) "Exile and displacement are key themes of *No Land Is Her Land*." Critically comment.

(f) What does the title *An Old Man Remembers* suggest about the narrative perspective of the story? Who is remembering, and from what point in time? 3+2=5

(g) Critically analyse Kuhila Bai's role in the story *Celebration*.

(h) Make a character assessment of Nilotpal. How is the diversity of his personality reflected in the story *Gogoponti Lakratua*?

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

10×2=20

- (a) "Like the rooster, I too, seem/to have become obsolete." How does Nongkynrih present his concern at the fast-decaying tribal culture in the face of modernisation and the resultant cultural loss and emptiness for which he feels obsolete?
- (b) Examine the theme of identity in *The Legends of Pensam*. How do the characters navigate their personal and cultural identities? 5+5=10
- (c) What does the title of the story *Celebration* signify?
- (d) "No Land Is Her Land" focuses on the identity crisis of a woman who never feels she belongs anywhere." Discuss.

- (e) How does the story *An Old Man Remembers* reflect the "universal themes of reflection and the enduring influence of the past on the present"? Do you think the old man's memories are a source of strength, pain, or both? Justify your answer with reference to the text.

2+8=10

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1 (Sem-6/FYUGP) ENG 64 MJ

2 0 2 6

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : ENG0600404

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ hours

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

Answer the questions from **any one** Option

OPTION—A

Paper : ENG0600404A

(Indian Writing)

1. Answer the following questions in one word :

1×8=8

- (a) To which city does Muhammad bin Tughlaq shift his capital?
- (b) What system of landholding is satirized in *Six Acres and a Third*?
- (c) In *The Old Playhouse*, what institution is primarily critiqued?

- (d) In *Poet, Lover, Birdwatcher*, what activity is compared to the act of writing poetry?
- (e) What is the name of the protagonist of the novel, *The English Teacher*?
- (f) In the short story, *The Weed*, what is the name of Angoori's old husband?
- (g) Where did the commotion break out in the short story, *Shah Jahan and His Private Army*?
- (h) Fill in the blank :

The inert bats were suspended
Behind the string of _____ shops.

2. Give short answers to the following questions (any six) : $2 \times 6 = 12$

- (a) In Keki N. Daruwalla's *Wolf*, what psychological state does the recurring image of the wolf evoke in the speaker?
- (b) Who is Hazu and what role does he play in the text he appears in?
- (c) Why does the father decide to cut down the banyan tree in Dilip Chitre's *The Felling of the Banyan Tree*?
- (d) Who is Susila? What is her role in Krishna's life?

- (e) In Amrita Pritam's *The Weed*, what does the weed ultimately suggest about the condition of women?
- (f) What major political decision taken by Muhammad bin Tughlaq leads to chaos in Girish Karnad's *Tughlaq*?
- (g) Why was Angoori's union with her husband postponed for five years?
- (h) What is the role of memory in the poem, *The Felling of the Banyan Tree*?
- (i) Name any two well-known poems written by Kamala Das.
- (j) Mention any two important themes commonly found in Ezekiel's poetry.

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

- (a) Attempt a character sketch of Angoori.
- (b) Explain with reference to the context :
The wolves have been slaughtered now.
A hedge of smoking gun-barrels
rings my daughter's dreams.
- (c) How does *The Felling of the Banyan Tree* represent a conflict between tradition and modernity in Chitre's poem?

- (d) How does Gangopadhyay use humour to portray the personality of Shah Jahan in his story?
- (e) Examine the symbolic significance of bats in Nabakanta Barua's poem.
- (f) How does Amrita Pritam's story, *The Weed* critique social customs and gender inequality?
- (g) How does Narayan depict the theme of love and loss in *The English Teacher*?
- (h) Comment on the roles of Bhagia and Saria in Senapati's *Six Acres and a Third*.

4. Answer the following essay-type questions
(any two) : 10×2=20

- (a) Analyze the role of religion in *Tughlaq*. How does the play portray the manipulation of faith for political ends?
- (b) Critically analyze the spiritual journey of Krishna in *The English Teacher*. How does R. K. Narayan portray the transition from material life to spiritual awakening?

- (c) Examine the character of Ramachandra Mangaraj as a representation of feudal power and moral decay in *Six Acres and a Third*. How does Senapati construct his rise and fall?
- (d) Discuss Nissim Ezekiel's contribution to modern Indian English poetry with special reference to *Poet, Lover, Birdwatcher*. How does the poem reflect the shift from romanticism to modernist discipline in Indian English verse?
- (e) Discuss Kamala Das as a confessional poet in Indian English literature. How do her poems challenge conventional notions of femininity, sexuality and marriage?

OPTION—B

Paper : ENG0600404B

(American Literature)

1. Answer the following questions : 1×8=8

- (a) For how many years did Rip Van Winkle fall asleep?
- (b) What is the tone of the poem, *Dear John Wayne*?

- (c) Who is the writer of the poem, *Heaven*?
- (d) What is the poem, *Cavalry Crossing a Ford* about?
- (e) Who is the speaker in the poem, *Vigil Strange I kept on the Field One Night*?
- (f) When did Hurston feel 'most coloured'?
- (g) Who is the protagonist of the novel, *The Underground Railroad*?
- (h) Which event does the graphic novel, *In the Shadow of No Towers* focus on?

2. Answer any six of the following questions :

2×6=12

- (a) How does Whitman describe the scene of the *Cavalry Crossing a Ford*?
- (b) What is the central theme of the poem, *How It Feels to be Coloured Me*?
- (c) How does the poet use sensory details in the poem, *Heaven*?
- (d) What is the significance of John Wayne in the poem, *Dear John Wayne*?
- (e) What was the 'last look' exchanged between the two men in the poem, *Vigil Strange I Kept on the Field One Night*?

- (f) What does Hurston mean by saying she is not 'typically coloured'?
- (g) What dual narratives does Spiegelman weave together in the graphic novel, *In the Shadow of No Towers*?
- (h) What is the main theme of Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad*?
- (i) What symbolic role does Hudson River play in the story, *Rip Van Winkle*?
- (j) What is the speaker's attitude towards John Wayne in the poem, *Dear John Wayne*?

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

5×4=20

- (a) Analyze the significance of *The Underground Railroad* in the context of American history.
- (b) How does Hurston's essay, *How It Feels to be Coloured Me* challenge or reinforce dominant narratives of racial identity?
- (c) Examine the themes of movement and transition in Whitman's poem, *Cavalry Crossing a Ford*.

- (d) Analyze how Spiegelman uses visual narrative techniques to convey the trauma of 9/11 in *In the Shadow of No Towers*.
- (e) How does the poet use the concept of 'Heaven' as a metaphor for the speaker's desires and memories?
- (f) Discuss the significance of the title, *Dear John Wayne* and its relation to the poem's themes and tone.
- (g) Discuss the portrayal of slavery and its impact on individuals in the novel, *The Underground Railroad*.
- (h) How does Rip Van Winkle's character reflect the theme of identity and belonging?

4. Answer any *two* of the following questions :
10×2=20

- (a) Discuss the ways in which Zora Neale Hurston navigates her identity as a black woman in *How It Feels to be Coloured Me*.
- (b) How does Whitman's poem, *Cavalry Crossing a Ford* reflect his views on war and humanity?

(Continued)

- (c) Discuss the use of historical and cultural references in *In the Shadow of No Towers*. What do they add to the narrative? 6+4=10
- (d) Discuss the elements of fantasy and folklore in *Rip Van Winkle*. How do they contribute to the story's themes and meaning? 5+5=10
- (e) Discuss the themes of identity, culture and belonging in *Heaven*. How does the poet explore these themes through the speaker's experiences? 5+5=10

OPTION—C

Paper : ENG0600404C

(Shakespeare)

1. Answer the following questions : 1×8=8

- (a) When and where was Shakespeare born?
- (b) What is the acting company with which Shakespeare was associated?
- (c) How many Sonnets did Shakespeare write?
- (d) Who is the writer of the novel, *Ophelia*?

- (e) When was Hogarth-Shakespeare Project launched?
- (f) To which tradition of play does Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus* belong?
- (g) What is the title of 2016 Film adaptation of Shakespeare's *Richard III*?
- (h) Who is the king of Scotland at the beginning of the play, *Macbeth*?

2. Answer any six of the following questions :

2×6=12

- (a) Why is Shakespeare called the 'Bard of Avon'?
- (b) Name any two famous tragedies written by Shakespeare.
- (c) What is the importance of Globe Theatre in Shakespeare's career?
- (d) What is the structure of a Shakespearean Sonnet?
- (e) What is *Vinegar Girl* about?
- (f) Who is the 'dark lady'?
- (g) Who is Puck in the play, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*?

- (h) Who are the four young lovers in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*?
- (i) What happens to Lady Macbeth at the end of the play, *Macbeth*?
- (j) What is the central idea of Shakespeare's Sonnet 137?

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

5×4=20

- (a) Why are Shakespeare's plays adapted into Novels?
- (b) How does the Film adaptations help in modernizing Shakespeare's plays?
- (c) What role do the Witches play in *Macbeth*?
- (d) What is the significance of the dagger scene in *Macbeth*?
- (e) Explain the significance of the forest in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.
- (f) How does Shakespeare present love in Sonnet 141?
- (g) Comment on the use of nature imagery in Sonnet 18.

(h) Explain :

In things right true my heart
and eyes have erred,
And to this false plague are they
now transferred.

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

10×2=20

- (a) How do Film and Novel adaptations reinterpret Shakespeare's plays to the modern audience? Discuss.
- (b) Analyze the role of supernatural elements in the play, *Macbeth*.
- (c) What is the significance of dream and imagination in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*? Discuss.
- (d) Discuss the major themes of Shakespeare's Sonnets with illustrations from the Sonnets in your syllabus.
- (e) Why are Shakespeare's works considered universal and timeless? How does Shakespeare portray human emotions and psychology in his works?

OPTION—D

Paper : ENG0600404D

(Contemporary Writing)

1. Answer the following questions :

1×8=8

- (a) Who wrote *Station Eleven*?
- (b) Who is Nilmani Phookan?
- (c) Name the author of *Please Look After Mom*.
- (d) What is postmodernism?
- (e) What is multiculturalism?
- (f) Name one characteristic of contemporary poetry.
- (g) Mention one theme in *Station Eleven*.
- (h) What is global fiction?

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

2×6=12

- (a) Comment on family as a theme in *Please Look After Mom*.
- (b) How does *Proof* deal with mental instability?

- (c) What is postmodern narrative technique?
- (d) Write two features of contemporary literature.
- (e) Write a short note on alienation in contemporary writing.
- (f) Briefly comment on memory as a theme in *Station Eleven*.
- (g) Write on two features of contemporary poetry in short.
- (h) Mention two global concerns in contemporary writing.
- (i) What do you mean by social 'values' in contemporary writing?
- (j) What is identity crisis?

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

5×4=20

- (a) Discuss social change in *Please Look After Mom*.
- (b) Mention five features of contemporary drama.
- (c) Analyze the character of Catherine in *Proof*.

- (d) Discuss gender issues in contemporary literature.
- (e) Briefly estimate Simon Armitage as a poet.
- (f) Discuss trauma in *Station Eleven*.
- (g) Examine multiculturalism in contemporary writing.
- (h) Critically appreciate one contemporary poem from your syllabus.

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

10×2=20

- (a) Discuss *Station Eleven* as a post-apocalyptic novel reflecting modern anxieties.
- (b) Discuss the aptness of the title 'Heroes'.
- (c) Discuss the major characteristics of contemporary writing with examples.
- (d) Analyze *Proof* as psychological drama dealing with genius and inheritance.
- (e) Discuss identity, ethics and alienation in contemporary literature with reference to prescribed texts.
