

3 (Sem-6/CBCS) ENG HE 2

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ENGLISH

Paper : ENG-HE-6026

(World Literature)

(Honours Elective)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

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

1. Answer any ten of the following as directed :

1×10=10

- (a) Who in V. S. Naipaul's *A Bend in the River* believes that men who are nothing, who allow themselves to become nothing, have no place in this world?
- (b) What is the symbolic implication of the Domain in V. S. Naipaul's *A Bend in the River*?

- (c) Finally who becomes the owner of Salim's shop?
- (d) In the play, *The Unnatural and Accidental Women*, Rita Louise James is also known as _____.

(Fill in the blank)

- (e) Which true story inspired Marie Clements to write the play, *The Unnatural and Accidental Women*?
- (f) "One sees clearly only with the heart. Anything essential is invisible to the eyes." Who in *The Little Prince* says this?
- (g) The prince in *The Little Prince* is mystical and supernatural.

(Write True or False)

- (h) What does the title of the poem, *Bora Ring* refer to?
- (i) How many stanzas does the poem, *Bora Ring* consist of?
- (j) What does the word 'corroboree' in the poem, *Bora Ring* mean?

- (k) What represents Western culture in Gabriel Okara's poem, *The Mystic Drum*?
- (l) What does the word 'smoke' in Gabriel Okara's poem, *The Mystic Drum* suggest?
- (m) "I'm powerless to show any concern
For my own inevitable fate."
From which poem are the above lines quoted?
- (n) Who is Kareisha?
- (o) When the poet in the poem, *The Grass is Really Like Me* says 'me', what is she exactly referring to?

2. Answer any five of the following questions :

2×5=10

- (a) Why was Salim in *A Bend in the River* arrested?
- (b) What purpose does the presidential photograph in *A Bend in the River* serve?
- (c) Why did Rebecca's mother disappear?

- (d) How does the little prince learn the true meaning of love?
- (e) How many protagonists are there in Antoine De Saint-Exupéry's *The Little Prince*? Who are they?
- (f) What is 'alien tale' in the poem *Bora Ring*?
- (g) Write two points of similarity between the grass and a woman in the context of the poem, *The Grass is Really Like Me*.
- (h) What does the title of the poem, *The Mystic Drum* refer to?

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

- (a) What are your views on the philosophy announced in the opening paragraph of the first chapter of *A Bend in the River*?
- (b) Why does Salim feel that he is geographically uprooted and culturally dislocated?
- (c) Why is the fox's eagerness to be tamed by the little prince significant?

- (d) How does Judith Wright lament the loss of aboriginal culture in her poem, *Bora Ring*?
- (e) What is free verse? Write a note on the use of it in the poem, *Bora Ring*.
- (f) How does Gabriel Okara look at Western civilization in his poem, *The Mystic Drum*?
- (g) Write a short note on the use of surrealism in the play, *The Unnatural and Accidental Women*.
- (h) In the poem, *Assembly Line*, why does Shu Ting talk about the human condition as numb, empty and full of ennui?

4. Give illustrative answers to the following questions (any *four*) :
10×4=40

- (a) The unnamed African setting in V. S. Naipaul's *A Bend in the River* can be taken as a microcosm of post-colonial Africa. Do you think so? Give a reasoned answer.

- (b) Can Indar be the fictional projection of the author? Why does he consider London as the only place he can call home?
- (c) Is Raymond a true historian of Africa in *A Bend in the River*? What is the purpose of Naipaul behind creating the character of Raymond? Explain.
- (d) How does Marie Clements examine and challenge assumptions about gender and indigeneity in her play, *The Unnatural and Accidental Women*?
- (e) What is your assessment of the character Rebecca in the play, *The Unnatural and Accidental Women*? Throw light on all the aspects of her character.
- (f) Write a note on the use of symbols and metaphors in Antoine De Saint-Exupéry's novella, *The Little Prince*.
- (g) Offer your analysis of the character of the little prince. Why does he at last want to return to heaven?

- (h) Why does the poet allude to Cain in the last line of the poem, *Bora Ring*? Justify the significance of this allusion.
- (i) Write a note on the political context of Shu Ting's poem, *Assembly Line*.
- (j) What do you mean by world literature? What are the aspects associated with it? In your answer, refer to the texts prescribed.
