

Model Question Paper
Third Semester M. A Degree Examination
English Language and Literature
Elective Course 3: Paper XIII
EL 535.1- Indian Writing in English
(2022 Admission)

Time: 3 Hours

Max. Marks: 75

I. Answer any **five** of the following questions in about **50 words**:

1. Comment on the spiritual message of 'Geetanjali' Song 50.
2. Describe the Dragon Kite and its symbolic significance.
3. What is the surgical procedure described in *Tara*?
4. Comment on the use of myth in *The Ground Beneath Her Feet*.
5. Discuss the importance of the diary in 'Grandfather'.
6. How did Gogol Ganguli become the namesake?
7. Who are the Giritiyas in *Sea of Poppies*?
8. Comment on the title of the poem 'Life Sentence'.

(5 x 2 = 10 Marks)

II. Answer any **five** of the following questions in about **100 words**:

9. Discuss the Dalit consciousness in contemporary Indian writing.
10. Evaluate the contributions of diaspora writers towards Indian writing in English
11. Discuss Shashi Tharoor's critique of Richard Attenborough's *Gandhi*.
12. Analyze Aiyappa Panicker's theory of interiorization.
13. Comment on the use of memory in 'My Grandmother's House'.
14. Discuss Karnad's use of mythology in *The Fire and the Rain*.
15. Comment on the crisis of identity in 'Promotion'
16. Evaluate 'Coromandel Fishers' as an allegorical poem

(5 x 5 = 25)

III. Answer any **two** of the following questions in about **300 words** choosing **one** from each group.

Group – A

17. Explain the themes of mysticism and devotion in Tagore's *Geetanjali*.
18. Analyze *The English Teacher* as an autobiographical novel
19. Evaluate the impact of Nationalism on literature of the Twentieth century

Group – B

20. Discuss *Sea of Poppies* as a postcolonial novel.

21. Elucidate Ezekiel's conceptualization of home and identity in 'Background Casually'.

22. Discuss the evolution of modern Indian drama

(2 x 15 = 30)

IV. Answer any **one** of the following questions in about **150** words.

23. Present the main argument in the given passage in not more than two sentences and attempt a one-page critical note on the passage.

The Ganges again! Again those ineffable days and nights, languid with joy, sad with longing, attuned to the plaintive babbling of the river along the cool shade of its wooded banks. This Bengal sky-full of light, this south breeze, this flow of the river, this right royal laziness, this broad leisure stretching from horizon to horizon and from green earth to blue sky, all these were to me as food and drink to the hungry and thirsty. Here it felt indeed like home, and in these I recognised the ministrations of a Mother.

That was not so very long ago, and yet time has wrought many changes. Our little river-side nests, clustering under their surrounding greenery, have been replaced by mills which now, dragon-like, everywhere rear their hissing heads, belching forth black smoke. In the midday glare of modern life even our hours of mental siesta have been narrowed down to the lowest limit, and hydra-headed unrest has invaded every department of life. Maybe, this is for the better, but I, for one, cannot account it wholly to the good.

These lovely days of mine at the riverside passed by like so many dedicated lotus blossoms floating down the sacred stream. Some rainy afternoons I spent in a veritable frenzy, singing away old *Vaishnava* songs to my own tunes, accompanying myself on a harmonium. On other afternoons, we would drift along in a boat, my brother Jyotirindra accompanying my singing with his violin. And as, beginning with the *Puravi*, we went on varying the mode of our music with the declining day, we saw, on reaching the *Behaga*, the western sky close the doors of its factory of golden toys, and the moon on the east rise over the fringe of trees.

24. Today, whether you are a resident of Delhi or Dili, Durban or Darwin, whether you are from Noida or New York, it is simply not realistic to think only in terms of your own country. Global forces press in from every conceivable direction. People, goods and ideas cross borders and cover vast distances with ever greater frequency, speed and ease. We are increasingly connected through travel, trade, the Internet; through what we watch, what we eat and even the games we play. The ancient Indian notion encapsulated in the Sanksrit dictum 'vasudhaiva kutumbakam' (the world is a family) has never been truer.

25. Trace the evolution of Indian Poetry in English.

(1 x 10 = 10)