

3 (Sem-6/CBCS) ENG HE 2

2 0 2 3

ENGLISH

(Honours Elective)

Paper : ENG-HE-6026

(World Literature)

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 is Salim's childhood friend in
A Bend in the River?

(b) Naipaul's *A Bend in the River* is about an
Indian man who lives in postcolonial
_____.

(Fill in the blank)

(c) Name the character in *A Bend in the
River* who is locally believed to be a
sorceress.

- (d) Why does Father Huismans obsessively collect the emblems of African spiritual traditions?
- (e) Who is Aunt Shadie in *The Unnatural and Accidental Women*?
- (f) Marilyn in *The Unnatural and Accidental Women* is one of the Barbershop Women.

(Write True or False)

- (g) Marie Clements is
- (i) an Irish playwright
 - (ii) a French playwright
 - (iii) a Canadian Metis playwright
 - (iv) a British playwright

(Choose the correct answer)

- (h) What in *The Little Prince* symbolises the far-off mystery of the heavens?
- (i) Where does the narrator in *The Little Prince* meet the little prince?
- (j) From whom does the little prince learn precious lessons of life?
- (k) What is 'alien tale' in the poem, *Bora Ring*?

(Continued)

- (l) Only the ____ stands up to make the dancing ring;
(Fill in the blank)
- (m) What does the speaker in the poem, *The Mystic Drum* do at last?
- (n) In the poem, *The Mystic Drum* 'she' represents African culture.

(Write True or False)

- (o) What does the phrase 'Scorching defeat' in the poem, *The Grass is Really Like Me* refer to?
- (p) What is the original name of the poet Shu Ting?
- (q) Which particular event of China prompted Shu Ting to write her poem, *Assembly Line*?
- (r) Jean Arasanayagam is
- (i) a French writer
 - (ii) a Sri Lankan writer
 - (iii) an Italian writer
 - (iv) a Spanish writer

(Choose the correct answer)

(Turn Over)

2. Answer any five of the following questions :

2×5=10

- (a) What is the symbolic implication of the water hyacinth which is seen throughout the novel, *A Bend in the River*?
- (b) Why Father Huismans in *A Bend in the River* is considered to be a relic of the colonial past?
- (c) Who is Metty? What does his name refer to?
- (d) Give two reasons as to why the play, *The Unnatural and Accidental Women* is regarded as a commemorative monument.
- (e) Mention any two symbols from *The Little Prince*.
- (f) What is the symbolic significance of drinking water in *The Little Prince*?
- (g) Who is Roberto Michael? What was his first impression about the couple he spotted in the small park?

(Continued)

- (h) What do the words 'grafted on to the earth' in the poem, *The Grass is Really Like Me* mean?
- (i) What does the stranger in the poem, *The Mystic Drum* do?

3. Answer briefly on any four of the following questions :

5×4=20

- (a) Write a short note on Raymond in *A Bend in the River* as a historian.
- (b) Can Ferdinand in *A Bend in the River* be taken as the representative of 'the new African'? Write your views briefly.
- (c) What is a 'fable'? Discuss briefly with reference to *The Little Prince*.
- (d) Write a short note on Julio Cortazar as a short story writer with particular reference to the story *Blow-Up*.
- (e) Who is Judith Wright referring to when she writes 'painted bodies' and 'nomad feet' in the poem, *Bora Ring*?
- (f) What is the significance of the phrase 'belching darkness' in the poem, *The Mystic Drum* by Gabriel Okara?

A23/691

(Turn Over)

- (g) What is a refrain in poetry? What purpose does the refrain in the poem, *The Mystic Drum* serve?
- (h) Offer your views on the title of the poem, *Assembly Line*.

4. Answer any four of the following questions :

10×4=40

- (a) Diaspora theorising opens up the discursive space for a discussion of the ideas like memory and displacement. Do you think so? Elaborate with reference to any text prescribed for you.
- (b) Analyse the concepts of hybridity, race and culture in the context of some of the literary texts of contemporary world literature.
- (c) Nearly all the characters in the novel, *A Bend in the River* suffer from feelings of defeat. Do you think so? Discuss and offer your views on it.
- (d) Write a note on the significance of the title of Marie Clement's play, *The Unnatural and Accidental Women*.
- (e) Can Judith Wright's poem, *Bora Ring* be read as a postcolonial poem? Substantiate.

- (f) How Gabriel Okara in the poem, *The Mystic Drum* establishes that African culture is in tune with nature? Provide instances from the text to validate your answer.
- (g) Offer a critical appreciation of the poem, *The Grass is Really Like Me*.
- (h) Analyse Antoine's characterisation in *The Little Prince* and emphasize his views on adults and children in the novella.
- (i) What, according to you, are the reasons behind the abiding popularity of Antoine De Saint-Exupery's novella, *The Little Prince*?
