

3 (Sem-6/CBCS) ENG HE 2

2023

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

Asia.

(Fill in the blank)

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

(2)

(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*?

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(Continued)

(3)

(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)

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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?

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

(ij) 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?

- (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.

(Continued)

- (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*?
