

Seat No. : _____

FC-111
February-2025
M.A., Sem.-I
403 : English
(Indian Writing in English)

Time : 2:30 Hours]

[Max. Marks : 70

Instructions : (1) Mention clearly the options you attempt.
(2) Figures on the right indicate marks.

1. (A) Analyse R.K. Narayan's contribution to Indian English literature. How did his works help shape the literary landscape in postcolonial India ? **14**

OR

(B) Examine the key characteristics of Mulk Raj Anand's writing style that distinguishes him as a pioneer in Indian English literature. **14**

2. (A) Critically assess the role of myth in *Kanthapura*. How does Raja Rao blend mythology with history to enhance the novel's themes ? **14**

OR

(B) In *Kanthapura*, how does Raja Rao depict the role of women in the Indian freedom struggle ? Discuss the empowerment of female characters in the novel. **14**

3. (A) How does Vasudha Dalmia argue the case for urban interest in traditional theatre forms ? Discuss with reference to her book *Poetics, Plays, and Performances*. **14**

OR

(B) Examine how *Poetics, Plays, and Performances* engages with the political and aesthetic challenges faced by modern Indian theatre. Substantiate your discussion with relevant examples. **14**

4. (A) Discuss how the setting of the play *Brief Candle* in a hospital and its focus on cancer patients shapes its approach to life and death. How do the characters' experience with illness influence their actions and relationships ? **14**

OR

(B) In *Brief Candle*, how do the characters use the play they are rehearsing to process their emotions and personal experiences ? In what ways does art function as a tool for survival and self-expression ? **14**

5. Choose the correct answer from the options given below each of the following statements : (Any **Seven**) 14
- (1) Eclectic humanism and humanitarian compassion are persistent themes in many of the novels of _____.
 - (a) Raja Rao
 - (b) Mulk Raj Anand
 - (c) R.K. Narayan
 - (d) A.S.P. Ayyar
 - (2) R.K. Narayan's novel *Swami and Friends* was published in the year _____.
 - (a) 1928
 - (b) 1930
 - (c) 1933
 - (d) 1935
 - (3) _____ is partly inspired by Rilke's *The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge*.
 - (a) *The Serpent and the Rope*
 - (b) *Kanthapura*
 - (c) *The Cat and Shakespeare*
 - (d) *Comrade Kirillov*
 - (4) In *Kanthapura*, it is believed that Sage _____ performed intense penances to invoke the descent of Kenchamma from the heavens.
 - (a) Bhrigu
 - (b) Agastya
 - (c) Tripura
 - (d) Atri
 - (5) In *Kanthapura*, young Sankamma died of _____.
 - (a) chickenpox
 - (b) smallpox
 - (c) cholera
 - (d) malaria
 - (6) _____ opposes Moorthy and the Gandhian movement the most in *Kanthapura*.
 - (a) Bhatta
 - (b) Ratna
 - (c) Rangamma
 - (d) Achakka
 - (7) *Shakuntala* was translated into English by Sir
 - (a) Henry Eliot
 - (b) William Jones
 - (c) William Robertson
 - (d) Alok Ray
 - (8) The Sangeet Natak Akademi was established in Delhi in _____.
 - (a) 1980
 - (b) 1960
 - (c) 1957
 - (d) 1953
 - (9) The play, *The Other Side of the Silence* is authored by _____.
 - (a) Surjit Singh Pattar
 - (b) B.V. Karanth
 - (c) Urvashi Butalia
 - (d) Neelam Man Singh
 - (10) In the play *Brief Candle*, Mahesh is a devotee of Lord _____.
 - (a) Krishna
 - (b) Shiva
 - (c) Rama
 - (d) Hanuman
 - (11) The play within a play in *Brief Candle* is set in a _____.
 - (a) college
 - (b) hotel
 - (c) hospital
 - (d) prison
 - (12) In the play *Brief Candle* Mahesh Dattani has used a huge mask called 'Face of _____'.
 - (a) AIDS
 - (b) Reality
 - (c) Society
 - (d) Cancer