

Seat No. : \_\_\_\_\_

# AO-115

April-2025

B.A., Sem.-IV (NEP)

DSC-M-ENG-244 (Minor) : English

(Voices of Modern India : Literature in Post-Independence Era)

Time : 2 Hours]

[Max. Marks : 50

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

1. (A) Discuss in detail, major themes in A. K. Ramanujan's poetry. **10**

**OR**

1. (B) Write a detailed note on the contribution of major Indian women novelists of the post-independence period. **10**

2. (A) How does the story "The Boss Came to Dinner" explore the complexities of social hierarchy and generation gap through the characters of Shamnath and his mother ? **10**

**OR**

2. (B) Comment on the use of irony in Manohar Malgonkar's short story "Two Red Roosters". **10**

3. (A) "Mahesh Dattani's play "Tara" explores themes of gender discrimination and societal expectations through the story of conjoined twins, Tara and Chandan." Comment. **10**

**OR**

3. (B) What theatrical techniques does Mahesh Dattani use in his play "Tara" ? Discuss them in detail. **10**

4. Show your acquaintance with the following titles. Mention the name of the author, the year of publication, the form of the work and the age/period to which it belongs. (Any **Five**) **10**

- (1) Hymns in Darkness
- (2) Woodpeckers
- (3) The Princes
- (4) The English Queens
- (5) Black Jasmine
- (6) The Flute of Krishna
- (7) Jejuri

5. Choose the correct option and answer the following : (Any ten)

10

- (1) The most recurring theme in the poetry of Nissim Ezekiel is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) social injustice (B) death  
(C) alienation (D) betrayal
- (2) A. K. Ramanujan's poem "Small Scale Reflections on a Great House" portrays the picture of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) architectural beauty of the house (B) a typical joint family  
(C) demolition of the ancestral house (D) the grandness of the house
- (3) What kind of women characters are portrayed by Anita Desai in her novels ?  
(A) emotionally fragile (B) lovers of art and culture  
(C) strong and resilient (D) docile and indifferent
- (4) Nirad Chaudhuri's writing style is often categorised as \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) simple and straightforward (B) ornate and flowery  
(C) satirical and witty (D) descriptive and expository
- (5) Mr. Stan Towers was a specialist in \_\_\_\_\_ in the story "The Interview".  
(A) neurology (B) anthropology  
(C) art history (D) numismatics
- (6) The narrator of the story "The Interview" sends a note to his secretary asking her to bring a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) basket (B) dictionary  
(C) glass of water (D) box containing letters
- (7) Sonba's buffalo actually died \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) due to drought in the village  
(B) because it was old, weak and emaciated  
(C) because it was cursed by the churail  
(D) because of an accident
- (8) Mr. Shamnath wanted his mother "to keep awake and sitting" because \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) he did not want the guests to hear her loud snoring  
(B) he wanted her to meet the guests  
(C) she had to serve dinner to the guests  
(D) he wanted her to sing a song for the guests
- (9) What is Chandan struggling to do at the beginning of the play "Tara" ?  
(A) watch a movie (B) call his father  
(C) read a book (D) type a play
- (10) How does Bharati try to make up for her sense of guilt ?  
(A) By suing her father (B) By offering to donate her kidney  
(C) By giving her property to Tara (D) By filing a case against Dr. Thakkar
- (11) What are Chandan's feelings about his sister Tara's situation ?  
(A) He feels happy for her (B) He remains indifferent  
(C) He feels guilty and responsible (D) He blames her
- (12) How does the play "Tara" highlight societal attitude towards gender ?  
(A) By celebrating equality between genders  
(B) Through the preferential treatment given to Chandan over Tara  
(C) Through Tara's rebellion against her family and society  
(D) Through the quarrels between Bharati and Patel