

# COOCH BEHAR PANCHANAN BARMA UNIVERSITY

B.A. Honours 6th Semester Examinations, 2022

# ENGLISH

## DSE-4

Time: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 40

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

# Answer either GROUP-A or GROUP-B GROUP-A

# Literature of Diaspora

1. Answer any one question from the following:

 $15 \times 1 = 15$ 

- (a) Examine The Book of Secrets as a Postcolonial novel.
- (b) What features of diasporic writing can be found in A Fine Balance?
- (c) Comment on the friendship between Meena and Anita in Anita and Me.

#### OR

Discuss Gogol as a diasporic identity in The Namesake.

2. Answer any one question from the following:

 $10 \times 1 = 10$ 

(a) Critically analyse the character of Nanima in Anita and Me.

#### OR

Comment on the significance of the title, The Namesake.

- (b) Discuss the political background of A Fine Balance.
- (c) Examine the theme of forbidden love in The Book of Secrets.

Answer any one from the following:

 $5 \times 1 = 5$ 

- (a) Examine the function of the Prologue in A Fine Balance.
- (b) Briefly comment on interracial suspicion in The Book of Secrets.
- (c) How do Ashima and Ashoke try to adjust in America?

4. Answer any ten from the following:

 $1 \times 10 = 10$ 

- (a) Who killed the Prime Minister in A Fine Balance?
- (b) Who teaches Om to eat with a knife and a fork?
- (c) Where did Om and Ishvar move to get work?

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- (d) Who is Thakur Dharamsi?
- (e) Which diary did Pipa hide?
- (f) What is Dar-es-Salam?
- (g) Who is Rita in A Book of Secrets?
- (h) Who is Pius Fernandes in A Book of Secrets?
- (i) What does Ashima's father do for a living?

OR

Who is Uncle Alan?

(j) Who is Ashoke?

OR

What type of novel is Anita and Me?

(k) Why is Meena's father angry with her at the beginning of the novel?

OR

What is Jhumpa Lahiri's Debut novel?

(l) What race and community does Meena belong to?

OR

Which cities does The Namesake move through?

# GROUP-B

## Partition Literature

1. Answer any one question:

 $15 \times 1 = 15$ 

- (a) How does Basti offer psychological insight into historical events.
- (b) Discuss the role of memory in The Shadow Lines.
- (c) Examine the background of liberation movement of Bangladesh in 'Alam's Own House'.

OR

Discuss The Final Solution as a partition narrative.

- (d) Examine the irony of Partition in:
  - (i) 'Toba Tek Singh' by Manto.

OR

(ii) 'Toba Tek Singh' by Gulzar.

OR

- (iii) The desire to perpetually return to Bengal in Jibanananda Das' poem in your syllabus.
- 2. Answer any one question from the following:

 $10 \times 1 = 10$ 

- (a) How is memory used as a narrative technique in Basti.
- (b) Comment on the title of The Shadow Lines.
- (c) How does Manto's Toba Tek Singh address the issue of dispossession?

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- 3. Answer any one from the following:
  - (a) Briefly analyse the character of Bishan Singh.

- (b) Comment on the narrator's relation with Ila in The Shadow Lines.
- (c) Is Basti a chronicle or fiction? Briefly argue.
- 4. Answer any ten qustions:

 $1 \times 10 = 10$ 

- (a) Is Toba Tek Singh a real place?
- (b) Where was Bishan's asylum located?
- (c) Which languages does Bishan Singh mutter?
- (d) Where do we find the character of May Price?
- (e) Who is the narrator of The Shadow Lines?
- (f) Where does Ila live in the final section of The Shadow Lines?
- (g) Name the tree before 'Alam's Own House'.
- (h) What does Basti mean in English?
- (i) Who is the protagonist of Basti?
- (j) Where does the boy in Basti immigrate from and to?
- (k) Where was Tridib's house situated?