

2013

ENGLISH

Paper - 408

Full Marks : 90

Time : 4 Hours

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.  
Candidates are required to give their answers in  
their own words as far as practicable.*

*Answer Question No.11 and four others taking one  
from each Module.*

**Module-I**

1. How do indigenous myths get reflected in various genres of Indo-Anglian literature? Discuss, with illustrative references. 20
2. Write an essay on Amitav Ghosh as a novelist in the post-Independence period of Indian English writing. 20

**Module-II**

3. With reference to the poems in your syllabus, show how Kamala Das's poems reveal the quest for identity of a strong and passionate woman. 20

*[Turn over]*

4. Selecting any two poems from your syllabus, illustrate how Nissim Ezekiel's satiric attitude colours his poetry. 20

### Module-III

5. Comment upon Markandaya's art of plot-construction in *Nectar in a Sieve*. 20
6. Consider *The Shadow Lines* as a Partition Novel. 20
7. "The matriarch dominates the entire scene in *Nectar in a sieve*." Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer. 20
8. Comment on the role of Memory in *The Shadow Lines*, with reference to the text. 20

### Module-IV

9. Consider *The Fire and the Rain* as a representative play of Girish Karnad. 20
10. Would you say that Dattani sensitively twists situations into the unexpected in *Final Solutions*? Give reasons for your answer. 20

11. Answer *any two* of the following : 5+5=10

a) Locate and annotate:

"Whatever I or anybody is asking  
she is always saying yes  
and today she is going." 5

b) "An empty cistern, waiting through long hours  
fills itself with coiling snakes of silence." 5

c) Why did Rukmani's two sons decide to go to  
Ceylon? 5

d) Explain the significance of the sectional title  
'Going Away' in *The Shadow Lines*. 5

e) Critically comment on Das's evocation of  
childhood memories in "My Grandmother's  
House". 5

f) Comment on the ending of *Final Solutions*. 5

g) Comment on Karnad's non-traditional use of  
Fire Sacrifice (*Yajna*) as a rite in *The Fire and  
the Rain*. 5

2014

**ENGLISH**

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1. Write a brief essay on the salient features of the poetry of *any two* post-Independence Indo-Anglican poets who write from abroad. 20
2. Discuss the contribution of *any two* post-Independence Indo-Anglican woman short story writers. 20

**MODULE-II**

3. Kamala Das presents the marginalised people from an elitist distance. Discuss with reference to the poems in your syllabus. 20

[Turn over]

4. Critically analyse Ezekiel's use of wit and humour in his poems prescribed for you. 20

### MODULE-III

5. Do you think *Nectar in a Sieve* is a justified title of Markandaya's novel? Substantiate your answer. 20
6. Write a note on the role of the narrator in *The Shadow Lines*. 20
7. Analyse the impact of the East-West encounter on the characters in *Nectar in a Sieve*. 20
8. Consider *The Shadow Lines* as an autobiographical novel with a difference. 20

### MODULE-IV

9. Would you accept that in *The Fire and the Rain* Girish Karnad presents the *Mahabharata* myths in negative terms? Justify your answer. 20
10. Examine *Final Solutions* as a social critique. 20
11. Answer any two of the following : 5×2=10
- a) Trace the impact of any one of the miraculous events in *The Fire and the Rain*, on the development of the play. 5

- b) How does the grandmother react to the political events in post-Partition Calcutta in *The Shadow Lines*? 5
- c) Locate and annotate :  
Getting a man to love you is easy  
Only be honest about your wants as  
Woman. 5
- d) Explain the meaning of the line "a shadow falls on us and grows" in the poem "Enterprise". 5
- e) How did Tridiv die? 5
- f) Why does Bishakha pour the water out of Yabakri's sacred jug? 5
- g) Comment on the ending of *Nectar in a Sieve*. 5

29(D)

MA/Pt-II/ENG/P-408/DODL/15

2015

ENGLISH

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*Answer Question No.11 and four other questions taking one from each Module.*

**MODULE-I**

1. Write an essay on *any two* novelists of Indian origin who live abroad and write in the post-independence period. 20
2. Assess the contribution of *any two* dramatists, writing in the post-independence period, to the development of English drama in India. 20

**MODULE-II**

3. Consider Kamala Das as a confessional poet. Give illustrative references. 20

[Turn over]

4. How does Ezekiel negotiate the conflict between tradition and modernity in his poems? Answer with examples. 20

### MODULE-III

5. Do you think Rukmini is a traditional Indian woman who imbibes some of the characteristics of the 'New Woman'? Give reason for your answer. 20
6. Comment on the significance of the title of Amitav Ghosh's novel in your syllabus. 20
7. What is the significance of the sub-title of *Nectar in a Sieve*? Answer with reference to the text. 20
8. Critically analyse the narrative technique of *The Shadow Lines*. 20

### MODULE-IV

9. Consider *The Fire and the Rain* as a revenge tragedy. 20
10. Comment on the role of music in *Final Solutions*. 20



11. Answer any two of the following :  $5 \times 2 = 10$

- a) Comment on Karnad's non-traditional use of the rite of fire sacrifice.
- b) Discuss in brief the character of Robi.
- c) Locate and annotate:  
The mundane language of the senses sings  
Its own interpretations.
- d) Describe, after the poet, the dance of the eunuchs.
- e) What is the boy-narrator's observation about the riot that broke out in Calcutta in 1964?
- f) Why does Arvasie join the theatre group? How does Nittilai react to this move?
- g) Write a note on the role that Dr. Kenny plays in the villagers' lives.

2016

**ENGLISH**

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*Answer Question No.11 and four other questions taking one from each Module.*

**MODULE-I**

1. Write an essay on the contribution of any two poets to the development of English poetry in India in the post-independence period. 20
2. Write a note on the drama of social protest, either written in English or translated into English, in the 1980s and 1990s. 20

**MODULE-II**

3. Discuss the role of memory in the poetry of Kamala Das. Give reference to the poems in your syllabus. 20
4. Bring out the irony and the satire in "Goodby Party for Miss Pushpa T. S". 20

[Turn over]

### MODULE-III

5. Examine the significance of the title *Nectar in a Sieve*. 20
6. Comment on the structure of the novel *The Shadow Lines*. 20
7. How does Kamala Markandaya present the theme of East-West encounter in *Nectar in a Sieve*? 20
8. Consider *The Shadow Lines* as a novel of growing-up. 20

### MODULE-IV

9. Examine Karnad's use of Indian myths in *The Fire and The Rain*. 20
10. How does Dattani deal with the idea of communal and national identity formation in *Final Solutions*? Give examples. 20
11. Answer any **two** of the following : 5×2=10
  - a) Locate and annotate:  
Getting a man to love you is easy  
Only be honest about your wants as Woman.
  - b) Describe in your own words the situation leading to Nathau's death.

- c) Why did Rukmani's sons decide to go to Ceylon? How is their action symptomatic of the ills of the situations?
- d) Discuss the character of the grandmother in *The Shadow Lines*.
- e) Who pours out the water from Yavakri's sacred jug and why?
- f) Which boon does Yavakri seek from India? What impression of his character do you get from his choice?
- g) Why is the character of Daksha/Hardika shown as two different individuals by Dattani?

#### MODULE-I

Write an essay on the contribution of any two poets to the development of English poetry in India in the post-independence period. 20

Write a new social drama of social protest, either written in English or translated into English, in the 1980s and 1990s. 20

#### MODULE-II

Discuss the role of memory in the poetry of Kamala Das. Give reference to the poems in your syllabus. 20

Bring out the irony and the satire in "Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T. S". 20

2017

ENGLISH

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Answer **Question No. 11** and **four** other questions,  
taking **one** from each Module.

**MODULE-I**

1. Write an essay on the development of drama in English in the post-independence period. 20
2. Write an essay on the theme of philosophy as dealt with in English poetry in India in the post-independence period. 20

**MODULE-II**

3. Analyse "Marriage" as a poem of paradoxes. 20
4. Discuss Kamala Das's style with special reference to her diction and versification. 20

[Turn over]

### MODULE-III

5. Comment on the significance of the title of Amitav Ghosh's novel *The Shadow Lines*. 20
6. Bring out the significance of the sub-title "A Novel of Rural India". 20
7. Rukmini is both "Sati-Savitri archetypal pattern" and "the New Woman". Comment. 20
8. Attempt to read *The Shadow Lines* as a study in nationalism and political freedom. 20

### MODULE-IV

9. Consider *The Fire and the Rain* as a revenge tragedy. 20
10. Discuss the idea of impurity in *Final Solution*. 20
11. Answer any **two** of the following: 5×2=10
  - a) How are Aruna and Javed similar?
  - b) Why were Javed and Babba in the locality of the Gandhi family?
  - c) Why does Arvasu join the theatre group? How does Nittilai react to this move?
  - d) Who blackmailed Rukmini and why?

e) Why did old Granny pass away in the sheet?

f) Locate and annotate:

Body which once under his touch had gleamed

Like burnished brass, now drab and destitute

g) Explain the significance of the line:

The mundane language of senses sings

Its run interpretations.

Answer Question No. 11 and four other questions,  
using the \_\_\_\_\_ Module.

#### MODULE-I

1. Write an essay on the development of drama in English in the post-independence period. 20
2. Write an essay on the theme of philosophy as dealt with in English poetry in India in the post-independence period. 20

#### MODULE-II

3. Analyse "Marriage" as a poem of paradoxes. 20
4. Analyse Kamala Das's style with special reference to her diction and versification. 20