

COOCH BEHAR PANCHANAN BARMA UNIVERSITY

B.A. Programme 2nd Semester Examinations, 2022

ENGLISH

SELECTIONS FROM MODERN INDIAN LITERATURE

DSC (GROUP-1)

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 40

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

1. Answer any one of the following questions:

 $1.5 \times 1 = 1.5$

- (a) Do you find the ending of "The Holy Panchayat" convincing? Give reasons for your answer.
- (b) Comment critically on the title of the story 'M.C.C' by R. K. Narayan.
- (c) How has Basheer managed to present a critique of political ideologies through his narrative, "The Card-sharper's daughter"?
- (d) Comment on the agony of partition in Manto's "Toba Tek Singh".
- (e) How is the quilt used as a metaphor and symbol in the story "Lihaaf"?
- (f) "Squirrel" is both an autobiographical sketch and a reflection on the activity of writing. Discuss with suitable illustrations from the text.
- (g) Comment upon the style and mode of narration in "Such a Long journey".
- (h) Analyse the significance of the title of Tendulkar's play "Silence! the Court is in session".

2. Answer any one of the following questions:

 $10 \times 1 = 10$

- (a) Critically comment on the significance of the title of "The Holy Panchayat".
- (b) Is "The M.C.C" just a simple story about children and for children? Comment.
- (c) Do you think that Basheer has been successful in presenting a realistic picture of a village in Kerala?
- (d) Comment on Manto's use of madness as metaphor in "Toba Tek Singh".
- (e) Comment on the title of the story "Lihaaf".
- (f) Comment on the use of first person narrator in the story "Squirrel".
- (g) Elaborate upon the theme of the journey in the novel "Such a Long journey".

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3. Answer any one of the following questions:

 $5 \times 1 = 5$

- (a) Discuss about the use of allusions in "Squirrel".
- (b) Comment on the role of Pokker in Basheer's "The Card Sharper's Daughter".
- (c) "Today I am convinced that God speaks through a Panch's lips"— Why does Algu say this at the end of the story "The Holy Panchayat"?
- 4. Answer any ten of the following questions:

 $1 \times 10 = 10$

- (a) What is the full form of "M.C.C"?
- (b) What is the name of Jumman's father?
- (c) Who is Ramdhan Misra?
- (d) Who is Rabbu in "Lihaaf"?
- (e) What is the meaning of "Purattaasi" in the story "Squirrel"?
- (f) What is the name of Bishan Singh's daughter?
- (g) What is the name of a popular Malayalam newspaper you find in "The Card-Sharper's Daughter"?
- (h) Who is Pokker's daughter?
- (i) Who is Leela Benare in "Silence! the Court is in Session"?
- (j) Name the local villager who helps get the actors set up with the hall.
- (k) What is the name of Gustad Noble's wife?
- (1) From whom does Gustad receive a letter?