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Reg. No. :

Name :

Third Semester M.A. Degree Examination, February 2024

English Language and Literature

Elective Course : Paper III

EL 535.1 : INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH

(2022 Admission)

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 75

I Answer any **five** of the following in not more than **50** words each.

1. Postcolonialism
2. Dalit literature
3. Jeet Thayil as a contemporary Indian English poet
4. Nissim Ezekiel as a modernist poet
5. Dan in *Tara*
6. Mehmood in Ruskin Bond's short story
7. Spatial images and identity in *The Namesake*
8. R.K. Narayanan as a regional novelist

(5 × 2 = 10 Marks)

P.T.O.



II. Write short notes on any **five** of the following each in about **150** words.

9. Contemporary Indian English prose writers.
10. The shaping of the Indian mind in Shashi Tharoor's essay.
11. Tagore as a mystic poet.
12. "My Grandmother's House" as an autobiographical poem.
13. Parvasu in *The Fire and the Rain*.
14. Plight of women in *Sea of Poppies*.
15. Krishna's quest for inner peace and self development in *The English Teacher*.
16. Ruskin Bond as a short story writer.

(5 × 5 = 25 Marks)

III. Answer any **two** in about **300** words choosing **one** from each section:

SECTION – A

17. "A Myth and an Idea" is a glorification of the spirit of India. Elucidate.
18. Comment on the autobiographical elements in Mahapatra's "Grandfather".
19. Make a critical appreciation of Nissim Ezekiel's poetry.

SECTION – B

20. Consider *Tara* as a drama on the crisis of Indian women in a patriarchal society.
21. Critique Karnad's treatment of myth in *The Fire and the Rain*.
22. Elucidate on the diasporic elements in the novels of Jhumpa Lahiri and Amitav Ghosh.

(2 × 15 = 30 Marks)



IV. Answer any **one** of the following question in about **150** to **200** words.

23. Make a critical appreciation of the passage given below and evaluate it in the context of contemporary Indian politics:

Never throughout all the centuries of rule by Hindu, Buddhist, and Muslim kings had any section of the Indian people sought a different political order on the grounds of religion alone; even the most intolerant of Muslim kings, those who razed temples and exacted the jaziya tax on unbelievers, had Hindu generals and ministers to serve them, including in wars against Muslim rivals. (And the Maratha king Shivaji, idolized by the eponymous but Muslim-hating Shiv Sena party, had Muslim officers in his army, too.) But the idea of dividing Indians by manner in which they held out their hands to God was born in the wake of the unsuccessful, but multireligious, “mutiny” of 1857, when Hindus and Muslims rose together in revolt against the foreigner. The sight (and the dismaying prospect) of Indians of varying faiths and regions united in a shared struggle against a alien rule struck more terror into the hearts of the British than their actual revolt, which was put down by the force of superior arms. Colonial administrators, needing to defend the imperial project, came up with the old Roman maxim *divide et impera*—“divide and rule”. What the British euphemistically dubbed “communal feeling” was actively stoked; it became a tenet of colonial policy to encourage particularist consciousness among Indians, both religious (so that they would be Muslims or Sikhs first and Indians second, if at all) and regional (so that they would be Bengalis or Dogras rather than Indians). If the structures of British rule tended toward the creation of a united India for the convenience of the rulers, its animating spirit was aimed at fostering division to achieve the same ends. This seeming paradox (but in fact entirely logical construct) of imperial policy culminated in the tragic Partition of India upon independence—so that August 15, 1947, was a birth that was also an abortion.

24. Make a comparative analysis of the development in Indian English Poetry before and after independence.

25. Attempt a critical evaluation of Indian Writing in English emphasizing a critical perspective on the historical and socio-cultural contexts for the emergence and development of the genre

(1 × 10 = 10 Marks)

