

2024

ENGLISH

(Honours Elective)

Paper : ENG-HE-6036

(Partition Literature)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. Answer the following as directed : 1×10=10

- (a) Name the husband of Mallika.
- (b) For how many years did the narrator's grandmother served in the school in *The Shadow Lines*?
- (c) In which year did Alam's father decide to give up his medical practice?
- (d) What is the name of the lunatic who declared that he was Muhammad Ali Jinnah?

(2)

- (e) What did the oil painting in Alam's house depict?
- (f) To how many women did Ayesha give shelter in her house?
- (g) Which bird calls from the silk-cotton tree?
- (h) Who, according to the poet, are free to roam?
- (i) Where will the poet go to meet Toba Tek Singh's Bishan?
- (j) Who asked Shesh to go inside the earth?

2. Answer the following questions : $2 \times 5 = 10$

- (a) Who were killed along with Tridip in the mob attack?
- (b) How did the inhabitants of Rupnagar learn for the first time that electricity had come to their town?
- (c) Why were the two Anglo-Indian lunatics worried?
- (d) In what forms does Jibanananda Das want to come back to Bengal?
- (e) Name any two persons who had arrived butchered at Wagah?

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(Continued)

(3)

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

$5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) Lalithambika Antharjanam's story, *A Leaf in the Storm* explores the abuse and emotional turmoil of people during the time of partition. Explain.
- (b) Comment on the theme of nostalgia in Dibyendu Palit's story, *Alam's Own House*.
- (c) Discuss the relationship between Tridip and May.
- (d) Briefly discuss the use of Indian mythology as a literary device in *Basti*.
- (e) How does Faiz Ahmad Faiz engage with the question of nationalism in his poem, *For Your Lanes, My Country*? Discuss.
- (f) How does the poet Jibanananda Das use nature to convey his love for Bengal?

4. Answer any four of the following questions :

$10 \times 4 = 40$

- (a) Attempt a critical understanding of the narrative technique of Intizar Hussain's *Basti* with special reference to the significance of memory as implicit in the text.

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(Turn Over)

- (b) Elaborate with illustrations from the text how *The Shadow Lines* interrogates the concept of nations and borderlines.
- (c) Do you think that the poem, *I Shall Return to This Bengal* articulates the poet's fond memory and longing for his lost homeland?
- (d) Attempt a critical appreciation of Gulzar's poem, *Toba Tek Singh*.
- (e) *The final Solution* and *A Leaf in the Storm* foreground the female body as a site for political and sexual context. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
- (f) Discuss how Saadat Hasan Manto depicts the psychological trauma of the partition through the predicament of Bishan Singh in his story *Toba Tek Singh*.
- (g) Elaborate how the house has been used as a metaphor in Dibyendu Palit's story, *Alam's Own House*.
- (h) Discuss how Faiz Ahmad Faiz engages with the question of nationalism in his poem, *For Your Lanes, My Country*.

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