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S. No. of Question Paper : 1964

Unique Paper Code : 203261

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Name of the Paper : English Language

Name of the Course : English for B.A. (Hons.)/B.Sc. (Hons.) Math./B.Sc. Math SC

Semester : II/IV

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

(Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.)

Question No. 1 is compulsory. Answer any *three* parts of question No. 1.

Answer any *three* from the rest of the questions 2 to 7.

1. Answer any *three* of the following :

3×10

(a) Birds that herald dreams

became strangers to their voice

when their song was throttled

They dropped into the dust

Even before the hunter strung his bow.

(i) Name the poem and the poet.

3

(ii) What dreams would birds herald for trees ?

3

(iii) How do you react to the word 'throttled' in these lines ?

4

P.T.O.

(b) Here was I, the white man with his gun, standing in front of the unarmed native crowd seemingly the leading actor of the piece; but in reality I was only an absurd puppet pushed to and for by the will of those yellow faces behind. I perceived in this moment that when the white man turns tyrant it is his own freedom that he destroys. He becomes a sort of hollow, posing dummy, the conventionalized figure of a sahib. For it is the condition of his rule that he shall spend his life in trying to impress the "natives," and so in every crisis he has got to do what the 'natives' expect of him. He wears a mask, and his face grows to fit it. I had got to shoot the elephant. I had committed myself to doing it when I sent for the rifle. A sahib has got to act like a sahib; he has got to appear resolute, to know his own mind and do definite things.

- (1) Identify the source of these lines. 3
- (2) Why is the white man forced to "impress the natives" ? 3
- (3) What kind of a critique of imperialism does the above passage offer ? 4

(c) So hack and chop

But this alone won't do it.

Not so much pain will do it.

The bleeding bark will heal

And from close to the ground
 Will rise curled green twigs,
 Miniature boughs
 Which if unchecked will expand again
 To former size.

- (1) Identify the source and the context of the above lines. 3
- (2) Explain 'Not so much pain will do it.' 3
- (3) Comment on the overall philosophy of the poem. 4
- (d) Oh, the logic of women ! Come to that, I never have liked them, I could do without the whole sex. Talk to a woman ? I'd rather sit on a barrel of dynamite, the very thought gives me gooseflesh. Women ! Creatures of poetry and romance ! Just to see one in the distance gets me mad. My legs start twitching with rage. I feel like yelling for help.

- (1) Identify the play, the author and the speaker of the above lines. 3
- (2) What is 'the logic of women' ? Is there one particular woman the speaker is condemning in this context ? 3
- (3) Discuss the irony and the sexism in the above lines. 4

(e) The door closed behind me. The game had started inside and the voices of the children were shouting in laughter. In case anyone should be looking out of the window, I think I cared, I turned my head and gazed sternly at a house across the street. I walked rapidly away.

And in case anyone I knew saw me with tears in my eyes I would say

- (1) Who is the speaker in these lines and why is she walking away ?
- (2) What is the difference between the circumstances of the speaker and those of the children inside the house ?
- (3) Discuss the feelings and the state of mind of the speaker from the last line which has been left incomplete ?

(f) There is no quiet place in the white man's cities. No place to hear the leaves of spring or the rustle of insect wings. But perhaps because I am a savage and do not understand—the clatter only seems to insult the ears. And what is there to life if a man cannot hear the lovely cry of the whippoorwill or the argument of the frogs around a pond at night ? The Red Indian prefers the soft sound of the wind itself cleansed by the midday rain, or scented with a pine. The air is precious to the red man, for all things share the same breath—the beasts, the trees, the man.

- (1) Who is the speaker of these lines ? Identify the context.
- (2) Why there is no quiet place in the white man's cities ?
- (3) "Perhaps because I am a savage and do not understand."
What is the fundamental difference between the white man and the red man in their relationship with nature and with each other ?

2. Neville Cardus calls cricket a 'great national game' i.e. the great English game. How would you relate this statement to Indian context today or not ? Give a reasoned answer. 15
3. Critically examine *O What is That Sound* as an anti-war poem. 15
4. Aurangzeb's letter to his teacher and D.H. Lawrence's poem *Last lesson of the Afternoon* are both critiques of the education systems. Discuss. 15
5. John Phillips was a C-grade student who designed an A-Bomb. How is he able to do it and what does it prove ? Discuss. 15
- "I am not his spouse, complained his second wife. I am just someone he happened to marry."
- In the light of the above statement, discuss how *Stench of Kerosene* offers a critique of the traditional Indian family system. 15
- Leaving Home* represents the dilemma of the Indian woman who is faced with a tough choice between her home and a career. Discuss. 15