

QUESTION BANK—SEMESTER 5: Modern Indian Writing in English Translation.

ANDHA YUG

1. Professor Alok Bhalla states that when all value systems flounder, we invoke an external power to intervene. Do you agree? Discuss this statement with reference to Krishna's character in Andha Yug. (The tensions between the earthly and the divine)
2. Does the common man have any say in Dharamvir Bharti's interpretation of the Mahabharata? Discuss the role of the two guards in the play in this light.
3. Andha Yug is about the degeneration of values in the mythical as well as the contemporary context. Discuss 'dharma' as the moral/ethical theme of the play.
4. Analyse the significance of 'retelling' and 'recreating' a mythical tale in post-independent India.
5. Dharamvir Bharti's women characters do not fall into the 'minor characters' category. Do you agree? Explain with illustrations from the play.
6. Ashwathama is the modern man in the process of turning into an animal. Discuss.

UNTOUCHABLE SPRING

1. Protest is manifested in various forms (as personal choice, art-song/dance/theatre. As violent action, or as conversion) How do the major characters play out these different roles?
2. Experience and not aesthetics is the core concern of Dalit literature. Explore how conventional reliance on assumption, analysis and imagination is of little significance in Untouchable Spring. Does it suggest solutions, or does it uphold the image as a challenge to all forms of dominance.
3. How does Untouchable Spring showcase Brahmanical traditions as an ally to colonisation?
4. Discuss the significance of the title of Untouchable Spring.
5. How does G. Kalyana Rao use the oral-storytelling tradition to add effect to the novel?
6. Discuss the various ways in which caste oppression is depicted in the novel.
7. Give a feminist reading to the novel "Untouchables Spring" and describe the role played by women in Dalit's struggle against caste oppression and social injustice.
8. In the context of Untouchable Springs describe the influence of caste system on Art and literature.

POEMS

1. Discuss the symbol of 'Void' in Muktibodh's poem. What effect does Muktibodh create on the reader by using this symbol.
2. 'So Very Far' is said to be a poem of protest . What or whom is poet protesting against.
3. How does Pritam fit herself into the poetic tradition of Waris Shah?
4. What are the main concerns of Ibopishak's poetry? Illustrate with examples from poems in your syllabus.
5. What is Tagore's concept of the Divine?
6. Discuss Tagore's ideas on Nature as depicted in the poetry in your syllabus.

SHORT STORIES

1. Write a critical note on the ending of senapati's story Rebati .
2. Short note on Kari's memories of village
3. Critically analyze character of Rebati.
4. Critically analyse the tittle "Lihaaf- The Quilt"
5. Write a note on Premchand's sense of social justice.