



Register Number:

Date:

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BANGALORE-27
B.A COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH – V SEMESTER
END-SEMESTER EXAMINATION: NOVEMBER 2020
CE 5118 – LITERATURE AND INTERPRETATION

Time- 2 1/2 hrs

Max Marks-70

This paper contains three printed pages and two parts

I. Annotate with reference to context any three of the following excerpts. Identify the poem and the poet and explain what the poem refers to (in about 100 words each):

3 x 5 = 15

1. This thought keeps consoling me:
though tyrants may command that lamps be smashed
in rooms where lovers are destined to meet,
they cannot snuff out the moon

2. your own divided face in the pair of glasses on an old man's nose
is all the countryside you get to see.
you seem to move continually forward.
toward a destination
just beyond the caste mark beyond his eyebrows

3. The house withdrew into silence, snakes moved
Among books, I was then too young
To read, and my blood turned cold like the moon

4. An offering of heel and haunch
on the cold altar of the culvert wall
the priest waits.
Is the bus a little late?

II. Answer any two of the following questions in about 200 words each: 2 x 10 = 20

5. Faiz has been hailed as a poet of love and freedom. From your experience of reading his poetry how would you respond to that assessment?

6. What in your view makes Kamala Das a poet who disturbs the prevailing views about women and their inner lives?

7. Which of the science fiction stories you read this semester appealed to you most and why?

Read the following Science Fiction story ('Pattern' by Fredric Brown) and answer the questions that follow:

Miss Macy sniffed. "Why is everyone worrying so? They're not doing anything to us, are they?"

In the cities, elsewhere, there was blind panic. But not in Miss Macy's garden. She looked up calmly at the monstrous mile-high figures of the invaders.

A week ago, they'd landed, in a spaceship a hundred miles long that had settled down gently in the Arizona desert. Almost a thousand of them had come out of that spaceship and were now walking around.

But, as Miss Macy pointed out, they hadn't hurt anything or anybody. They weren't quite substantial enough to affect people. When one stepped on you or stepped on a house you were in, there was sudden darkness and until he moved his foot and walked on you couldn't see; that was all.

They had paid no attention to human beings and all attempts to communicate with them had failed, as had all attacks on them by the army and the air force. Shells fired at them exploded right inside them and didn't hurt them. Not even the H-bomb dropped on one of them while he was crossing a desert area had bothered him in the slightest.

They had paid no attention to us at all.

"And that," said Miss Macy to her sister who was also Miss Macy since neither of them was married, "is proof that they don't mean us any harm, isn't it?"

"I hope so, Amanda," said Miss Macy's sister. "But look what they're doing now."

It was a clear day, or it had been one. The sky had been bright blue and the almost humanoid heads and shoulders of the giants, a mile up there, had been quite clearly visible. But now it was getting misty, Miss Macy saw as she followed her sister's gaze upward. Each of the two big figures in sight had a tanklike object in his hands and from these objects clouds of vaporous matter were emerging, settling slowly toward Earth.

Miss Macy sniffed again. "Making clouds. Maybe that's how they have fun. Clouds can't hurt us. Why do people worry so?"

She went back to her work.

"Is that a liquid fertilizer you're spraying, Amanda?" her sister asked.

"No," said Miss Macy. "It's insecticide."

III. With reference to the above story answer any two of the following questions in about 200 words each:

2 x 10 = 20

8. What are the features of this story that you can identify as characteristic of the genre of science fiction?

9. What specific effects do you find the writer achieving through his use of dialogue, hyperbole and irony?

10. What sudden change of perspective do you find being achieved by the last line? Do you think the writer should have taken it a paragraph further to explain the significance of that line or would that spoil the story? Explain.

IV. Read the following poem by Ruskin Bond

Remember the long ago when we lay together
In a pain of tenderness and counted
Our dreams: long summer afternoons
When the whistling-thrush released
A deep sweet secret on the trembling air;
Blackbird on the wing, bird of the forest shadows,
Black rose in the long ago summer,
This was your song:
It isn't time that's passing by,
It is you and I.

11. Write a reflective response to the poem in about 150 words, including your take on the imagery and the central irony in the poem: $1 \times 10 = 10$

12. Look at the cartoon strip below and put down the thoughts it generates for you (in about 100 words). $1 \times 5 = 5$

