



Register Number:
Date: 27-11-2020

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BANGALORE- 27
V SEMESTER OPTIONAL ENGLISH (Elective)
END-SEMESTER EXAMINATION: NOVEMBER 2020
OE: 5318 ELECTIVE: SOUTH ASIAN LITERATURES

TIME: 2 ½ Hours

Max marks: 70

INSTRUCTIONS

1. You may use a dictionary
2. This paper contains TWO printed pages and THREE Sections.

Section A

Read the following and answer the questions set on it:

Aggression

By Taslima Nasreen

Human nature is such
That if you sit, they'll say, 'No, don't sit.'
If you stand, 'What's the matter? Walk!
And if you walk, 'Shame on you, sit down.!

If you so much as lie down, they'll order, 'Get up.'
If you don't lie down, no respite, ' Lie down.'

I'm wasting my days getting up and sitting down.
If I'm dying right now, they speak up, 'Live.'
If they see me living, who knows when
they'll say, 'Shame on you. Die!'
In fear, I secretly go on living.

Answer the following in about THREE sentences each (3x5=15)

- 1) Choose any one of the paradoxes/contrasts presented in the poem and explain its meanings
- 2) What does the writer mean when she says "in fear, I secretly go on living?"
- 3) Explain the meaning of the title of the poem.

Section B

Answer any THREE of the following in not more than 200 words each

(3x15=45)

- 4) How does Benedict Anderson conceptualise the idea of nation? In what ways are his notions relevant to nation-formation in South Asia? Explain using suitable examples.
- 5) According to Kanak Mani Dixit, what are the varied ways by which South Asia as a region and a culture are stitched together? Explain the value in perceiving the various countries of the region as a single collective entity.
- 6) Show how Yasmin Gooneratne talks about longing and loss in her poem. Do you think that this loss and longing is truly the condition of the diasporic? Give suitable reasons for your answer.

- 7) Choose any two themes that ArunKolatkār's poetry deals with and comment on what they signify for South Asia. Using your reading of the texts, explain its implications for culture and society.

Section C

Write a short note on any ONE of the following in not more than 100 wordseach

(1x10=10)

- 8) Prison Evening
9) Partha Chatterjee's view of nation

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