

Registration Number:

Date & Session

**ST. JOSEPH’S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BENGALURU -27**

**B.A COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH –V SEMESTER**

**SEMESTER EXAMINATION: OCTOBER 2023**

**(Examination conducted in November /December 2023)**

**CE 5123: Communicative English V**

**(For current batch students only)**

**Time: 2 Hours Max Marks: 60**

**This paper contains TWO printed pages and FOUR parts**

**PART-A**

1. **Read the poem, *The Onion* by Wislawa Szymborska and answer the questions below.**

The onion, now that's something else

its innards don't exist

nothing but pure onionhood

fills this devout onionist

oniony on the inside

onionesque it appears

it follows its own daimonion

without our human tears

our skin is just a coverup

for the land where none dare to go

an internal inferno

the anathema of anatomy

in an onion there's only onion

from its top to its toe

onionymous monomania

unanimous omninudity

at peace, at peace

internally at rest

inside it, there's a smaller one

of undiminished worth

the second holds a third one

the third contains a fourth

a centripetal fugue

polypony compressed

nature's rotundest tummy

its greatest success story

the onion drapes itself in it's

own aureoles of glory

we hold veins, nerves, and fat

secretions' secret sections

not for us such idiotic

onionoid perfections.

1. **Answer ANY THREE of the following questions in FIVE-SIX lines. (3x5=15)**
2. If the point of good poetry is to make the familiar seem unfamiliar for the reader, has this poem done its job? Explain.
3. We seem to be encountering an onion where an entire poem doesn’t once mention its taste or its capacity to produce tears. Comment.
4. Szymborska uses multiple onion-inspired words in the poem. Pick one that you find fascinating for the way it sounds. Explain what you think it means.
5. Use your understanding of wordplay in semantics to explain two instances of such work in the poem above.

**PART-B**

1. Szymborska says that the onion’s ‘innards don't exist’. Which vegetable according to you has the most interesting innards? **Answer in 150 words. (15 marks)**

**PART-C**

1. **Answer the following questions in 100-150 words each. (2x10=20)**
2. Does ‘Chasing Bayla’ lead us into a more intimate inquiry on the subject of whales? What particular effect does it have on a reader that makes it different from other kinds of journalism?
3. “Moore braced himself against the steel of the Zodiac’s platform tower as the boat closed in on the whale in the heaving Florida waters. Through the rangefinder, he could see the tangled mass of ropes cinched tightly around her. It was impossible to tell where the ropes began and where they ended.**”** -who does the author refer to when he says ‘her’ in this paragraph? How may the reader arrive at an answer for this? Use this paragraph to explain the concept of Anaphora.

**PART-D**

1. **Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 100-150 words. (10 marks)**
2. Writer and Historian, Allesandro Portelli believes that Oral History is a listening art. Do you agree with this view? Why? Explain with specific instances from your work with oral history this semester.
3. When you interviewed people this semester for your oral history projects, what did you do when you encountered responses such as “I have nothing to say” or “What do you want me to say?”

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