

NE-981-ABC Seat No. _____
Third Year B. A. Examination
April/May – 2003
English (Special)
Paper-X-A : Indo-English Literature
Paper-X-B : American Literature
Paper-X-C : Comparative Literature

Time : 3 Hours]

[Total Marks : 70

Paper-X-A : Indo-English Literature

Texts : *Girish Karnad : Nagmandala*
: *Tagore : The Wreck*
: *A. K. Ramanujan : Selected poems*

Instructions : (i) Figures to the **right** indicate **full** marks.
(ii) Mention clearly the option you attempt.

1 (a) Discuss the thematic richness of Karnad's *Nagmandala*. **14**

OR

(b) 'Rani's character projects a conflict between illusion and reality'.—Justify. **14**

OR

(c) Comment on the mixing of human and non human worlds to present alternative points of view in *Nagmandala*. **14**

2 (a) 'Tagore's *The Wreck* is with a weak plot told with powerful narrative skill'.—Comment. **14**

OR

(b) 'Tagore is remarkable in handling the female sensibility'.—Justify the statement with reference to Kamla in *The Wreck*. **14**

OR

(c) Evaluate *The Wreck* as a social novel. **14**

- 3 (a) 'Ramanujan's poetry develops in Contrasts'. —Illustrate. **14**
- OR**
- (b) Discuss the themes in Ramanujan's poems you have studied. **14**
- OR**
- (c) Comment on Ramanujan's style. Give illustrations. **14**
- 4 Write short notes on any **two** of the following, selecting one from each group :
- Group A : (i) The end(s) of *Nagmandala* **9**
(ii) Apparna
(iii) The subplot in *Nagmandala*.
- Group B : (i) The end of the novel *The Wreck* **9**
(ii) Umesh
(iii) Nalinaksha.
- 5 Write a short note on any **one** of the following : **10**
(i) History
(ii) A River
(iii) The Last of the Princess.

Paper-X-B : American Literature

- Texts : (i) Tennessee Williams : *A Street Car Named Desire*
(ii) Ernest Hemingway : *For Whom the Bell Tolls*
(iii) Emily Dickinson : *Poems from American Literature*.

Instruction : Figures to the **right** indicate **full** marks.

- 1 (a) "A frequently recurring theme in Tennessee Williams' plays relates to the decadence of Southern aristocracy". Substantiate with reference to *A Streetcar Named Desire*. **14**
- OR**
- (b) Stanley Kowalski is a character whose primitive vitality excuses his crudeness and brutality.—Discuss. **14**

OR

- (c) Discuss *A Streetcar Named Desire* as an expressionistic play. **14**
- 2** (a) Write an elaborate essay on the use of irony in *For Whom the Bell Tolls*. **14**
- OR**
- (b) "Only a handful of American novelists can rival the scope of Ernest Hemingway's fictional study of War".—Discuss the statement with a special reference to *For Whom the Bell Tolls*. **14**
- OR**
- (c) Discuss the character of Robert Jordan as a typical Hemingway hero. **14**
- 3** (a) Comment briefly on the style of Emily Dickinson with special reference to diction, metre, imagery and metaphor. **14**
- OR**
- (b) Explain how death holds a dominating position in Emily Dickinson's poetry. **14**
- OR**
- (c) Write a critical note on *The Last Night that She lived*. **14**
- 4** (a) Write a note on any **one** : **9**
- (i) Stella
- (ii) Significance of the title : *A Streetcar Named Desire*.
- (iii) Tragic vision in the play : *A Streetcar Named Desire*.
- (b) Attempt a note on any **one** : **9**
- (i) End of the novel : *For Whom the Bell Tolls*
- (ii) Anselmo
- (iii) Maria.
- 5** Appreciate any **one** of the following : **10**
- (i) *This is my letter to the world*
- (ii) *I died for Beauty, But was scarce*
- (iii) *"Hope" is the thing with Feathers.*

Paper-X-C : Comparative Literature

Texts : *King Lear Mudraraksasam*.

Instruction : All questions carry **equal** marks.

- 1 (a) "The study of comparative literature indicates that great literary geniuses all over the world have common experiences to share".—Elaborate.

OR

- (b) "In practice the term comparative literature covers the themes and their migration."—Discuss.

- 2 (a) Write a detailed note on national literature, world literature and comparative literature.

OR

- (b) Attempt working definitions of comparative literature.

- 3 (a) "Lear is more sinned against than sinning". Justify this statement.

OR

- (b) Write short notes on :
(i) The storm scene in *King Lear*
(ii) Cordelia.

- 4 (a) "The characters of Chanakya and Raksasa are excellent foils with their maxims of politics."—Discuss.

OR

- (b) Write short notes on :
(i) Chandanahasa
(ii) Malayakelu.

- 5 (a) Compare *King Lear* and *Mudraraksasam* as great tragedies.

OR

- (b) Write short notes on :
(i) Regan and Goneril
(ii) The title : *Mudraraksasam*.