



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL
B.A. Honours Part-III Examination, 2020

ENGLISH
PAPER-VIII (NEW SYLLABUS)

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

*The word limit mentioned below against each question to be strictly followed by the students:
5 marks-100 words / 20 marks-475 words.*

Choose *one* Option from

- Option-I : CLASSICAL LITERATURE**
Option-II : INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE
Option-III : AMERICAN LITERATURE

Mention the Option of the special paper on the cover page of the Answer Book

Option-I : CLASSICAL LITERATURE (in translation)

1. Answer any *two* of the following questions: 20×2 = 40
- (a) Explore *Agamemnon* as an Aeschylean tragedy.
 - (b) Discuss the function of the Chorus in *Agamemnon*.
 - (c) Is the ending of *Medea* more contrived than inevitable? Argue your answer.
 - (d) “Medea displays almost unrivalled psychological and emotional power”. Elucidate.
 - (e) How far can fate be held responsible for the tragedy of Oedipus in *Oedipus Rex*? Discuss.
 - (f) “In her own right, Jocasta is a tragic figure of no considerable proportions.” Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
 - (g) Elaborate on the aptness of the title of *The Birds*.
 - (h) Would you consider *The Birds* a specimen of escape literature? Support your answer.
2. Answer any *two* of the following: 5×2 = 10
- (a) Why is Juno angry in Book 1 of the *Aeneid*?
 - (b) Comment on the ending of *The Birds*.
 - (c) Why does Agamemnon sacrifice his daughter?
 - (d) Write a short note on the prologue in *The Trojan Women*.
 - (e) Comment on the last speech of Oedipus.
 - (f) What role does the nurse play in *Medea*?

Option-II : INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE

1. Answer any *two* questions from Group-A to Group-C (Taking only *one* from each group) 20×2 = 40

GROUP-A

(a) Bring out the predominant themes in Ramanujan's poetry prescribed for you.

OR

(b) Attempt a critical appreciation of *Chicago Zen* and *Love Poem for a Wife*.

(c) Comment on Mahapatra's poetic craft with reference to the poems you have read.

OR

(d) Attempt a critical appreciation of *The Moon and Moments* and *A Kind of Happiness*.

GROUP-B

(e) Elaborate on Rushdie's narrative technique in *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*.

OR

(f) Examine the women characters in *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*.

(g) Critically examine the aptness of the title of *The Inheritance of Loss*.

OR

(h) Analyze the character and role of Biju in *The Inheritance of Loss*.

GROUP-C

(i) Comment on Tendulkar's use of the play-within-play technique in *Silence! The Court is in Session*.

OR

(j) Would you consider Benare as a new woman? Argue your answer.

(k) How does *Evam Indrajit* embody an existential view of life? Discuss.

OR

(l) Consider *Evam Indrajit* as a modern play both in theme and technique.

2. Answer any *two* questions from the following: 5×2 = 10

(a) Why does the poet call the air of 'Chandipur on Sea' 'captive'?

OR

(b) What is the poet's conviction expressed in *After Reading a Prediction*?

(c) How is Iff, the Water Genie, described in *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*?

OR

(d) Describe Noni, who was Sai's first tutor, in *The Inheritance of Loss*.

(e) What does Sukhatme speak of motherhood and why?

OR

(f) Why does Indrajit refer to the Tree of Knowledge?

Option-III : AMERICAN LITERATURE

1. Answer any *two* questions from Group-A to Group-C (Taking only *one* from each group) 20×2 = 40

GROUP-A

- (a) Consider Ginsberg as a modern poet.

OR

- (b) Critically appreciate *A Supermarket in California*.

- (c) How far can Whitman be regarded a poet of democracy? Discuss with adequate textual reference.

OR

- (d) Critically appreciate, *I Hear America Singing*.

GROUP-B

- (e) Justify the appropriateness of the title of *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

OR

- (f) What image of Marguerite do you get in *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*?

- (g) Give your own estimate of the Reverend Arthur Dimmesdale.

OR

- (h) *The Scarlet Letter* came out of the very heart of the Mid-Seventeenth Century New England. Discuss.

GROUP-C

- (i) Examine the character of Ephraim in *Desire Under the Elms*.

OR

- (j) *Desire Under the Elms* is a play of violence. Discuss.

- (k) Discuss *The Crucible* as a political allegory.

OR

- (l) Examine the role and character of John Proctor.

2. Answer any *two* questions from the following: 5×2 = 10

- (a) How does the wound dresser feel while visiting the injured soldiers?

OR

- (b) What finally scares the poet in *Desert Places*?

- (c) How is man 'metamorphosed into many things'?

OR

- (d) Identify the sources of *The Scarlet Letter*.

- (e) How does *Desire Under the Elms* end?

OR

- (f) Could Elizabeth save Proctor by lying about his lechery?

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