

B.A. Semester VI (Honours) Examination 2022 (CBCS)

Subject: English

Paper CC XIV: Postcolonial Literatures

Time: 3 hours

Full marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words
as far as practicable.

1. Answer **any ten** of the following questions: 2X10=20
 - a. What does the 'night' symbolize in Neruda's 'Tonight I Can Write'?
 - b. What is the significance of the line 'Love is short, forgetting is so long;?'
 - c. What, according to the poet, are the sources of 'good writing' in 'Tonight I Can Write'?
 - d. What is the poetic form of 'Tonight I Can Write' based on?
 - e. How does Walcott's 'A Far Cry from Africa' depict Mau Mau Rebellion?
 - f. What is the significance of the series of rhetorical questions at the end of Walcott's 'A Far Cry from Africa'?
 - g. What is the historical context of Walcott's 'A Far Cry from Africa'?
 - h. What is meant by 'The gorilla wrestles with... tongue I love'?
 - i. What is the significance of flowers and river in the lives of the North-Eastern people in Mamang Dai's 'Small Towns and the River'?
 - j. Why does the poet-speaker say, 'The river has a soul' in Mamang Dai's 'Small Towns and the River'?
 - k. How does the poet express the idea of the immortality of water in Mamang Dai's 'Small Towns and the River'?
 - l. What is the significance of the phrase 'the shrine of Happy pictures'?
 - m. 'A sad wreath of tuberose' ---Why is the wreath sad?
 - n. What does the speaker call a mistake in David Malouf's 'Revolving Days'?
 - o. How is love an instrument of self-reflection in David Malouf's 'Revolving Days' ?

2. Answer **any four** of the following questions: 5x4=20
 - a. Briefly examine the theme of the finality of lost love in Neruda's "Tonight I Can Write."
 - b. Describe the images of the flies and of the worm used in "A Far Cry from Africa."
 - c. Critically comment on the motif of divided identity in Walcott's "A Far Cry from Africa."

- d. Bring out the significance of David Malouf's lines, "The old tug at the heart, the grace unasked for, urgencies/ that boom under the pocket of a shirt."
- e. Discuss in brief the theme of death in Mamang Dai's "Small Towns and the River."
- f. "There was once, in the country of Alifbay, a sad city, the saddest of cities, a city so ruinously sad that it had forgotten its name." Describe Haroun's "unhappy metropolis".

3. Answer **any two** of the following questions:

10x2=20

- a. Critically elaborate on the struggle between tradition and change in *Things Fall Apart*.
- b. Discuss the relationship between love and solitude in "Tonight I Can Write."
- c. Write a note on the significance of Mr Sengupta's taunt, "What's the use of stories that aren't even true?" Elaborate with reference to *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*.
- d. "In her best writing, she captured not only our usual indifference in the face of injustice but the difficulty of precisely articulating what oppression is." Analyze Mahasweta Devi's *The Arrow of Chotti Munda* in light of the above comment.