

This question paper contains 3 printed pages]

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S. No. of Question Paper : 3724

Unique Paper Code : 2034001203

Name of the Paper : Indian Classical Literature

Name of the Course : GE : English

Semester : II/IV/VI

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 90

(Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.)

This question paper contains 2 parts.

Both parts are compulsory.

Candidates have to answer all the questions in

Part A and any *three* questions in Part B.

Questions in Part A carry 10 marks each

and questions in Part B carry 20 marks each.

Part A

1. (a) Explain the significance of the descriptions of the assembly hall in the Dicing Sections of the *Mahabharata*.

Or

- (b) Explain with reference to context the following lines :

“O famous lady, the number of thy sons will never be less than five. Five it will always be, either with me, or with Arjuna, and myself slain”.

P.T.O.

2. (a) Write a short note on the character of Kanva.

Or

- (b) Explain with reference to context the following lines :

"You touch

ever so often her glancing eyes, tremulous,

and softly hum, hovering close to her ear

as if eager to whisper a secret,

sneaking in to taste her ripe lower lip ...".

3. (a) Discuss the concept of *Karma* as represented in the Book of Vanci.

Or

- (b) Explain with reference to context the following lines :

"I must now lead a virtuous life.

Manimekalai should be spared the life of a courtesan

Which is full of troubles".

Part B

4. (a) In what ways does the dicing episode provide a critique of the *Kshatriya* code in the *Mahabharata* ?

Or

- (b) "The Pandavas were staunch adherents of *dharma* even in the face of dire circumstances." Discuss.

5. (a) "Dushyanta and Shakuntala represent opposing spaces and ideals within the play." Do you agree ? Give a well-reasoned answer.

Or

- (b) Discuss the attributes of the ideal king, as they emerge from the *Abhijnānaśākuntalam*.

6. (a) Explain the ways in which Cenkuttuvan and Kannaki are established as masculine and feminine ideals.

Or

- (b) Do you think the final themes of 'impermanence of life' and 'doing' good deeds' in the 'Book of Vanci' critique the celebration of war and violence ? Give a well-reasoned answer.

7. (a) Critically comment on the theme of 'transience of life' with reference to any *one* text from the course.

Or

- (b) Discuss the social importance of family in ancient Indian society, with examples from any *two* prescribed texts.