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2 SEM TDC ENG G 1

2018

(May)

ENGLISH

(General)

Course : 201

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32/24

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

UNIT—I

(Short Stories)

1. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) Give a character sketch of Behrman.
Why was his *The Last Leaf* a
masterpiece? 6+4=10

- (b) "O. Henry, with grim and ironic humour, underscored the effect of coincidence on human character." Examine *The Last Leaf* in the light of this observation. 10

2. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) Give your opinion on whether Nambi was a talented storyteller or whether he was divinely inspired. Why did he fail to tell a story towards the end? 6+4=10

- (b) "I have a most wonderful tale to tell tonight." What was the 'wonderful' tale told by Nambi? Narrate the incident that led to this 'tale'. How did the people receive this story? 3+4+3=10

3. Answer any one of the following : 10

- (a) Explain how the speaker in *An Indian in China* could build friendly relationship in the seemingly hostile environment in China, thereby making his own job easier. 10

- (b) How do the Chinese view foreign friends? How did they treat Vikram Seth? 5+5=10

4. Answer any *three* of the following : $2 \times 3 = 6$

(a) What 'unseen stranger' does the author talk about? How does he 'smite' his victims?

(b) Why did Behrman smell of juniper berries?

(c) How old was Nambi? How did he indicate his age?

(d) What did Nambi tell the people when he was not in a mood to tell stories?

(e) How did the Chinese refer to Raj Kapoor and Nargis? Why did they do so?

(f) When and why, according to the author, was Beethoven banned in China?

5. Give very short answers to any *four* of the following : $1 \times 4 = 4$

(a) How is the disease pneumonia presented in the story, *The Last Leaf*?

- (b) What did Johnsy hope to do one day?
- (c) What did Nambi do after saying his last story?
- (d) How did Nambi get his food and clothing?
- (e) What, according to Seth, horrifies the Chinese?
- (f) How does Seth relate the Panda to a foreigner in China?

UNIT—II

(Prose)

6. Answer any *one* of the following : 10

- (a) Why does Verrier Elwin call his tour to Tawang a pilgrimage? Narrate his experiences of this tour as a pilgrim.

4+6=10

- (b) Describe, in your own words, how the local people enroute Tawang treated Elwin and his companions. 10

7. Answer any one of the following ? 10

(a) "Orwell's attitude to Gandhi was very ambiguous..." Discuss Orwell's views on Gandhi in the light of this observation.

(b) Examine how Orwell expresses his differences with Gandhi in *Reflections on Gandhi*.

8. Answer any one of the following : 10

(a) Discuss how religion and theology played a very important role in the formulation of theories of the universe.

(b) "The essay, *Our Picture of the Universe*, ends with a hypothesis and a hope." Elaborate how Stephen Hawking summarises the endless desire of man to describe the universe.

9. Answer any three of the following : $2 \times 3 = 6$

(a) What 'definite change' took place in the author during the few weeks of his pilgrimage to Tawang?

- (b) What idea do you get of the library of the Tawang Monastery from the author's description of it?
- (c) What is the religious basis of Gandhi's views?
- (d) What was Gandhi's stand on the problem of German Jews under Hitler?
- (e) What are the salient points in Newton's Law of Gravity?
- (f) What, according to Hawking, is the ultimate goal of science?

10. Give very brief answers to any *four* of the following : 1×4=4

- (a) What were the two occasions when Tawang came into world news?
- (b) What is a monastery?
- (c) What is Civil Disobedience?

(7)

- (d) Which British Prime Minister initiated the process leading to India's Independence?
- (e) What is the Big Bang Theory?
- (f) What, according to Newton, was responsible for the orbits of the moon and the planets being ellipses?
