

M.A. Examination, 2019
Semester IV
English
Course: M.4.3 (Core): Postcolonial Literature (New Syllabus)
Core X: Postcolonial Literatures (Old Syllabus)

Time: Three Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value

Answer Question 1 and any three from the rest

1. (a) Postcolonialism is an umbrella term involving many different theorists and theories. Discuss some of the major similarities and differences expressed by different postcolonial theorists.

Or

(b) Postcolonial theory is a method of interpreting, reading and critiquing the cultural practices of colonialism. Discuss with suitable references.

2. Apart from the story of the Partition of India, *Ice Candy Man* can also be read as a narrative of the protagonist's journey from innocence to experience. Do you agree? Answer with references from the text.

3. In her novel *The Joys of Motherhood* Buchi Emecheta highlights how the 'joys of motherhood' also includes anxiety, obligation and pain. Discuss.

4. According to Elleke Boehmer, "The nature of [the] nationalist struggle in India and Africa is identical." Discuss this in the light of the poems prescribed in your syllabus.

5. (a) Explain why the protagonist at the end of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's story "Checking Out" calls himself "a thing to be removed"?

Or

(b) Show how generational conflict complicates the lives of characters living in the diaspora in Shauna Singh Baldwin's story "We Are Not in Pakistan".

6. (a) Do you think Badal Sircar's *Sukhpathya Bharater Itihas (Indian History Made Easy)* is a play about the mechanism of colonial exploitation? Justify your answer with reference to the text.

Or

(b) Comment on the significance of the title of Derek Walcott's play *Pantomime*.
