

M.A. Examination, 2017

Semester-II

English

Course – M 2.3 (Core) - Special Author: Rabindranath Tagore (Regular)

Core-V - Special Author: Rabindranath Tagore (Back)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value.

Answer question no. 1 and **any three** from the rest.

1. a) “Tagore was a representative of the western-educated middle-class of the times and its complex social consciousness.” Do you agree? Discuss.
or
b) “The issue of gender in Tagore cannot be limited to the ‘woman question’ but embraces the problematic of both newly reconstituted femininity and masculinity.” Analyse.
 2. (a) “For Bimala, in *Gharey Bairey*, neither Nikhilesh nor Sandip can become an agency of emancipation, in the truest sense of the term.” Do you agree? Discuss.
or
(b) *Char Adhyaya* is a study of both the ‘personal’ and the ‘political’. Do you agree? Discuss.
 3. In the *Nationalism* essays Tagore posits Nation as an idea that has emerged at a particular historical juncture in the West as an expression of those tendencies which are anti-human. Do you agree? Elucidate.
 4. (a) “Punishment” is a story of a woman registering her protest against a patriarchal society. Do you agree? Discuss.
or
(b) “The Broken Nest” traces the development of Charu’s self into a self-dependent human being. Do you agree? Discuss.
or
(c) Tagore’s ‘The Post Master’ is a study of the intricate relationship between the country and the city. Do you agree? Discuss.
or
(d) How far is it relevant to consider Tagore’s ‘The Conclusion’ as a story of the changing nature of ‘man-woman’ relationship in Bengal in the context of colonial modernity? Give your views.
 5. Discuss, with reference to *The Religion of Man*, why Tagore believes that the Bauls give us the inner essence of all religions.
 6. Is lyric poetry an adequate generic category for Tagore’s *Song Offerings*? Justify your answer.
 7. Do you agree to the idea that contemporary Bengali society forms an important ingredient of *Bachelors’ Club*? Discuss.
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