

1993

Unique Paper Code : 2032301  
 Name of the Paper : The Individual and Society: Essays, Stories and Poems  
 Name of the Course : B.A.(H) Allied Course  
 Semester : III

H-7

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

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

Answer all questions.

1. Answer *any three* of the following passages:

3x10=30

(a) 'Have you had anything to eat? Or are they just making you work without feeding you? Why don't you ask them for something?'

'How can you expect me to digest a Brahman's food, Chikhuri?'

'Digesting it is no problem, you have to get it first. He sits in there and eats like a king and then has a nice little nap after he tells you you have to split his wood. The government officials may force you to work for them but they pay you something for it, no matter how little. This fellow's gone one better, calling himself a holy man.'

(i) Identify the text and explain who is being called a 'king' and why? 5

(ii) Contrast the characters of the two people speaking in this passage. 5

(b) She's not quite tall enough  
 and not quite full enough  
 (children will take care of that)  
 Her complexion it was decided  
 would compensate, being just about  
 the right shade  
 of rightness.

(i) Identify the poem and explain the context of the lines. 5

(ii) Comment on the irony in the given lines. 5

(c) Wood removes, from all the forms it supports, the wounding quality of angles which are too sharp, the chemical coldness of metal. When the child handles it and knocks it, it neither vibrates nor grates, it has a sound at once muffled and sharp. It is a familiar and poetic substance, which does not sever the child from close contact with the tree, the table, the floor. Wood does not wound or break down, it does not shatter; it wears out, it can last a longer time, live with the child, alter little by little the relations between the object and the hand. If it dies, it is in dwindling, not in swelling out like those mechanical toys which disappear behind the hernia of broken spring.

(i) Identify the text and explain the context. 5

(ii) Explain how the author favours the natural over the artificial in these lines. 5

(d) Gas! Gas! Quick, boys:--- An ecstasy of fumbling  
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time,  
But someone still was yelling out and stumbling  
And floundering like a man in fire of lime.---

(i) Identify the text and explain why the gas is bothering the speaker. 5

(ii) What eventually happens to the man who is 'floundering' here, and why does the scene remain in the poet's mind? 5

(e) Does it stink like rotten meat?  
Or crust and sugar over—  
Like a syrupy sweet?  
Maybe it just sags  
Like a heavy load.  
Or does it explode?

(i) Identify the poem and explain what is meant by 'Does it stink like rotten meat?' 5

(ii) What do the two images of sagging and exploding imply? 5

2. Write an essay of about 800 words on any three of the following: 3x15=45

(a) Comment on the significance of the exercise-book for Uma.

(b) Discuss how the logic of national boundaries seems to extend to the animal kingdom in Manto's 'The Dog of Tetwal'.

(c) Critically comment on Jotirao Phule's statement that the 'highest rights, the highest privileges and gifts' were reserved for the Brahmins.

(d) 'Still I Rise' is a poem of protest against many kinds of oppression.