

(3 Hours)

[Total Marks : 100

- N.B.** (1) All questions must be attempted.
(2) All questions carry equal marks.

1. (a) Discuss the view that the introduction of English in Indian education system proved to be a boon in disguise.

OR

(b) Evaluate Nehru's contribution to the formation of India as a modern nation.

OR

(c) During the nationalist period and after independence, Indian society has experienced the rise of Dalit consciousness. How is this reflected in literature? Answer with reference to relevant texts not prescribed for your study.

2. (a) Critically examine the realistic elements in Bankimchandra Chatterjee's *Rajmohan's Wife*.

OR

(b) What are the various themes of pre-independent Indian English Poetry ?

OR

(c) 'R.K. Narayan presents world of the school boys in his novel *Swami and Friends*.' Discuss.

3. (a) Do you think that *A Matter of Time* is concerned exclusively with the issues of women in India ? Justify your answer.

OR

(b) Amitav Ghosh's *The Calcutta Chromosome* has an unconventional story to narrate. What are the features that make the story unconventional ?

OR

(c) Do you think that bi-lingual poets writing in Indian English and regional languages are better placed as "Indian poets" than those who write exclusively in Indian English ? Justify your answer.

4. (a) *Dance Like a Man* is a sensitive exploration of man-woman relationship. Substantiate your answer.

OR

(b) 'The 'Cage' as the playwright named it, reveals the life of unfortunate women engaged in the profession of prostitution. These women, however, invite our sympathy rather than apathy.' Comment on the above statement with special reference to *A Touch of Brightness*.

OR

(c) Critically examine the plot construction of Mahesh Dattani's *Dance Like a Man* and Pratap Sharma's *A Touch of Brightness*.