

M.A 4th Semester Examination, 2011

ENGLISH

PAPER—2204 (B)

Full Marks : 40

Time : 2 hours

Answer all questions

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable

1. Answer any *one* of the following questions (within 300 words) : 10×1
- (a) Discuss the significance of the title of Rohinton Mistry's novel, *Such a Long Journey*.
- (b) Do you think that Bharati Mukherjee's *Jasmine* emerges as the wounded autobiography of the diasporic narrator? State reasons for your answer.

(Turn Over)

(c) Show how the female characters are active and the male characters are passive in *The Shadow Lines*.

(d) Briefly discuss the significance of the title of Amitav Ghosh's novel, *The Shadow Lines*.

2. Answer any *one* of the following questions (within 300 words) : 10 × 1

(a) Discuss how Salman Rushdie challenges the grand narrative of Indian nationalist historiography in *Midnight's Children*.

(b) How does Bapsi Sidhwa state the problematic of the partition and narrate its effects on the different communities in the country?

(c) Show how 'food' reflects the essence of culture for the diasporic Indians in the stories of Jhumpa Lahiri's *Interpreter of Maladies*.

(d) Analyse Hanif Qureshi's treatment of homosexuality vis-a-vis the diasporic context in *The Buddha of Suburbia*.

3. Answer any *one* of the following questions (within 300 words) : 10×1

(a) Attempt a feminist reading of Meena Alexander's poems. Illustrate from the selections you have read.

(b) Analyse Salman Rushdie's concept of 'home' as discussed in *Imaginary Homelands*.

(c) How does Salman Rushdie portray the role played by diasporic writers writing Indian English Literature ?

(d) How does Stuart Hall define 'identity' in the diasporic context ?

4. Briefly comment on any *two* of the following (within 100 words) : 5×2

(a) Symbol of the wall in *Such a Long Journey*.

(b) Jasmine's cultural displacement.

(c) Tridib's letter to Netai in *The Shadow Lines*.

(d) Stuart Hall's definition of "hybridity".

(e) The 'widow' in *Midnight's Children*.

(f) The allusion to Saul Bellow in *Imaginary Homelands*.

