

M.A. 4th Semester Examination, 2012

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) Analyse Rohinton Mistry's treatment of female characters in *Such a Long Journey*.
- (b) Critically examine how *Jasmine* narrates the story of the transformation of a traditional woman into an emancipated one.

(c) Consider *The Shadow Lines* as a critique of nationalism.

(d) Discuss the role of memory in *The Shadow Lines*.

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

(a) Comment on the significance of the title of *Midnight's Children*.

(b) Discuss how partition becomes the focal point in *The Ice-candy Man*.

(c) Show how cultural identity brings diasporic characters together in Jhumpa Lahiri's "When Mr. Pirzada came to Dine".

(d) Analyse how *Buddha of Suburbia* emerges as a diasporic novel that challenges various borders.

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

(a) Show how transnationalism is one of the major themes in Meena Alexander's poems.

(b) How consider *Imaginary Homelands* as Rushdie's contribution to Diasporic literature.

(c) Comment on Rushdie's view that literature is 'self-validating'. Discuss with reference to *Imaginary Homelands*.

(d) Analyse how Stuart Hall argues that identity, today, is formed not out of similarities but out of "difference".

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

5 × 2

(a) Significance of the perforated sheet in *Midnight's Children*.

(b) Role of Diluavaz in *Such a Long Journey*.

(c) The endings of the two parts of *The Shadow Lines*.

(d) "... More importantly Mr. Pirzada is no longer considered Indian."

(e) Stuart Hall's idea of "The Third, 'New World' presence".

(f) Rushdie's idea of "Indias of the mind".