

3 Hours 100 Marks

N.B.: Please check whether you have the correct question paper.
All five questions are compulsory.
Figures to the right indicate maximum marks for each question.

Q1 A Write an essay that comments on Professor Meenakshi Mukherjee's decisive influence in shaping the field of colonial and postcolonial studies in India with particular reference to her essay titled "The Anxiety of Indianness". **20**

OR

Q1 B Discuss how Satchidanandan examines the word 'diaspora' used as an umbrella term for immigrant writers that also conceals the differences in their backgrounds as well as contexts. **20**

OR

Q1 C Write short notes on **any two** of the following:

- (i) Meenakshi Mukherjee's views on Raja Rao's Foreword to his novel *Kanthapura*
- (ii) Feminist historiography in "Memory"
- (iii) Jasbir Jain's views on the contemporary novel
- (iv) The contradictory phenomena of migration and cybercommunication in K. Satchidanandan's "That Third Space"

Q2 A (i) How does Anita Desai portray the relationship between parents and children in India and the USA in *Fasting, Feasting*? **20**

OR

(ii) What roles and expectations are open to women and men in the India and America of *Fasting, Feasting*? What do the details of Anamika's and Aruna's marriages reveal about women's lives in traditional India?

OR

Q2 B (i) The romance narrative and the mystery narrative run parallel to each other. Which narrative is the more engrossing? Why? Give reasons with reference to incidents in *The Quills of the Porcupine* by Saradindu Bandyopadhyay. **20**

OR

(ii) Describe the secret lives led by the suspects and how do the revelations move the plot forward in *The Quills of the Porcupine*?

Q3 A Discuss the communal conflict and its effect on the life of Pali in Bhisham Sahani's "Pali". **20**

OR

Q3 B Examine the quest for freedom and self-assertion in Shashi Deshpande's "The Awakening."

Q4 A Write short notes on **any two**:

20

- (i) Family life and Individual Freedom in *Fasting, Feasting*
- (ii) Mrs. Patton's shopping sprees
- (iii) Mira Masi
- (iv) Narrative technique in *Fasting, Feasting*

OR

Q4 B Write short notes on **any two**:

20

- (i) Nripati
- (ii) The clash of western mores and Indian sensibility in *The Quills of the Porcupine*
- (iii) Debashish's illness
- (iv) The role of the servants

Q5 Write short notes on **any two**:

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- (i) Shakur Ahmed and Zainab as Altaf's parents
 - (ii) Accountant Kini
 - (iii) Rukmini's fascination for taboo foods
 - (iv) Baba's role in "The Awakening"
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