UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

B.A./B.Com./B. Voc. Programme 1st Semester Examination, 2021

LCC1-P1-ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH

TEXT COMPREHENSION, EDITING AND WRITING SKILL

Time Allotted: 2 Hours   Full Marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

GROUP-A

1. Read the paragraph carefully and answer the following questions: 2×7 = 14

    Marie was born in 1867 in Warsaw, Poland, where her father was a professor of physics. At an early age, she displayed a brilliant mind and a blithe personality. Her great exuberance for learning prompted her to continue with her studies after high school. She became disgruntled, however, when she learned that the university in Warsaw was closed to women. Determined to receive a higher education, she defiantly left Poland and in 1891 entered the Sorbonne, a French university, where she earned her master's degree and doctorate in physics.

    Marie was fortunate to have studied at the Sorbonne with some of the greatest scientists of her day, one of whom was Pierre Curie. Marie and Pierre were married in 1895 and spent many productive years working together in the physics laboratory. A short time after they discovered radium, Pierre was killed by a horse-drawn wagon in 1906. Marie was stunned by this horrible misfortune and endured heartbreaking anguish. Despondently she recalled their close relationship and the joy that they had shared in scientific research. The fact that she had two young daughters to raise by herself greatly increased her distress.

    Curie's feeling of desolation finally began to fade when she was asked to succeed her husband as a physics professor at the Sorbonne. She was the first woman to be given a professorship at the world-famous university. In 1911 she received the Nobel Prize in chemistry for isolating radium. Although Marie Curie eventually suffered a fatal illness from her long exposure to radium, she never became disillusioned about her work. Regardless of the consequences, she had dedicated herself to science and to revealing the mysteries of the physical world.

    (a) What led Marie to continuing her studies after high school?

    (b) What was the first impediment she faced in her journey?

    (c) Where was Marie able to finish her education?

    (d) What misfortune did Marie face in 1906?

    (e) Comment on Marie's accomplishments in the field of science.

(f) How did Marie die?

(g) Comment on the problems that she faced as a woman.

GROUP-B

2. Attempt a summary of the following paragraph: 12

The victory of the small Greek democracy of Athens over the mighty Persian Empire in 490 B.C. is one of the most famous events in history. Darius, king of the Persian Empire, was furious because Athens had interceded for the other Greek city-states in revolt against Persian domination. In anger the king sent an enormous army to defeat Athens. He thought it would take drastic steps to pacify the rebellious part of the empire.

Persia was ruled by one man. In Athens, however, all citizens helped to rule. Ennobled by this participation, Athenians were prepared to die for their city-state. Perhaps this was the secret of the remarkable victory at Marathon, which freed them from Persian rule. On their way to Marathon, the Persians tried to fool some Greek city-states by claiming to have come in peace. The frightened citizens of Delos refused to believe this. Not wanting to abet the conquest of Greece, they fled from their city and did not return until the Persians had left. They were wise, for the Persians next conquered the city of Eritrea and captured its people.

Tiny Athens stood alone against Persia. The Athenian people went to their sanctuaries. There they prayed for deliverance. They asked their gods to expedite their victory. The Athenians refurbished their weapons and moved to the plain of Marathon, where their little band would meet the Persians. At the last moment, soldiers from Plataea reinforced the Athenian troops.

The Athenian army attacked, and Greek citizens fought bravely. The power of the mighty Persians was offset by the love that the Athenians had for their city. Athenians defeated the Persians in both archery and hand combat. Greek soldiers seized Persian ships and burned them, and the Persians fled in terror. Herodotus, a famous historian, reports that 6,400 Persians died, compared to only 192 Athenians.

3. Write an essay on any *one* of the following topics: 10

    (a) Travelling as a part of Education.

    (b) Science — a blessing or a curse?

    (c) The day everything went wrong.

4. Answer any *one* of the following: 10

    (a) Write a letter to the municipality on the lack of proper waste disposal mechanism in your area.

    (b) Write a letter to your friend about a place you visited recently during your holidays.

    (c) Write a letter to your sister on your experience as a college student.

5. Apply any seven proof reading symbols to the paragraph below in reference to the correct version of it. 2×7 = 14

<u>Proof</u>:

Hobbies aree not useless. They are of great value and often to lead toserious thinking and gr eat action, Ruskins hobby for pictures created in Him an interest in economics, a hobby serves as a compass in our journey of life.

<u>Correct version</u>:

Hobbies are not useless. They are of great value and often lead to serious thinking and great action. Ruskin's hobby for pictures created in him an interest in economics. A hobby serves as a compass in our journey of life.

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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

B.A. Honours 1st Semester Examination, 2021

CC1-ENGLISH

ENGLISH LANGUAGE: OVERVIEW AND USAGE; LITERARY TYPES

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

GROUP-A

1. Answer any *three* questions from the following: 10×3 = 30

    (a) Write a note on the French influence on English language.

    (b) How did the introduction of Christianity affect English language?

    (c) Loan words have been called the milestones of general history – Do you agree? Argue your answer.

    (d) Write an essay on the essential features of Shakespearean tragedy.

    (e) Write a note on the Comedy of Humours.

GROUP-B

2. Answer any *two* questions from the following by writing short notes: 5×2 = 10

    (a) Scandinavian Law terms

    (b) Hybrids

    (c) Portmanteau words

    (d) Johnsonese

    (e) Journalese.

GROUP-C

3. Name and explain the figures of speech in any *four* of the following: 3×4 = 12

    (a) He was dressed in linen.

    (b) Beauty is truth, truth is beauty.

    (c) Earth has not anything to show more fair.

    (d) I wandered lonely as a cloud.

    (e) Our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest thoughts.

    (f) Death lays his icy hands on kings.

GROUP-D

4. Scan any *one* of the following, name the prevailing metre, and indicate variations if any: 8×1 = 8

(a) Water, water, everywhere,

And all the boards did shrink;

Water, water, everywhere,

Nor any drop to drink.

(b) The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,

The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea,

The ploughman homeward plods his weary way,

And leaves the world to darkness and to me.

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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

B.A. Honours 1st Semester Examination, 2021

CC2-ENGLISH

EUROPEAN CLASSICAL LITERATURE

Time Allotted: 2 Hours   Full Marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

GROUP-A

1. Answer any *four* questions from the following: 10×4 = 40

    (a) Analyze the role and character of Jocasta in *Oedipus Rex*.

    (b) Discuss the role of Fate in *Oedipus Rex*.

    (c) Evaluate Agamemnon as a tragic hero.

    (d) Explain the significance of the Cassandra scene in *Agamemnon*.

    (e) Discuss the character of Euclio.

    (f) Assess the appropriateness of the title of *The Pot of Gold*.

GROUP-B

2. Answer any *four* from the questions given below: 5×4 = 20

    (a) "I will search and clear / The darkness"— Bring out the significance of the quote.

    (b) How does Creon defend himself against Oedipus's charges?

    (c) Comment on the last speech of Oedipus in *Oedipus Rex*.

    (d) Why does Agamemnon sacrifice his daughter?

    (e) Write a short note on the prologue in *Agamemnon*.

    (f) What role does Aegisthus play in *Agamemnon*?

    (g) Discuss briefly Lar Familiaris's prologue in *The Pot of Gold*.

    (h) Comment on the ending of *The Pot of Gold*.

    (i) Discuss in brief the role of Phaedria in *The Pot of Gold*.

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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

B.A. Programme 1st Semester Examination, 2021

DSC1/2-P1-ENGLISH

INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY

Time Allotted: 2 Hours   Full Marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Answer any *five* of the following questions   12×5 = 60

1. "Joothan" transforms the experience of pain into a narrative of resistance — Discuss.

2. Examine the appropriateness of the title of "Joothan".

3. Critically comment on Tagore's handling of gender issues in "The Exercise Book".

4. Analyse the portrayal of the female characters in Tagore's "The Exercise Book".

5. What impression do you get about the characters of the speaker and the oppressor in "Still I Rise"?

6. Elucidate the major symbols in "Still I Rise".

7. Comment on Brecht's use of irony and satire in "General, Your Tank is a Powerful vehicle".

8. Comment on the theme of man versus machine in Brecht's "General, Your Tank is a Powerful vehicle".

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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

B.A. Honours 1st Semester Examination, 2021

GE1-P1-ENGLISH

SELECTIONS FROM INDIAN LITERATURE

Time Allotted: 2 Hours   Full Marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

1.   Answer any ***three*** questions from the following: 10×3 = 30

     (a) Attempt a critical appreciation of 'The Golden Boat' by Rabindranath Tagore.

     (b) Discuss the use of nature imagery in the poem of Tagore in your syllabus.

     (c) Discuss Kamala Das as a feminist poet with reference to the poem on your syllabus.

     (d) Attempt a critical analysis of the poem 'An Introduction' by Kamala Das.

     (e) Comment on the use of myth and folktale in '*Nagamandala*'.

     (f) Comment on the representation of Rani in Girish Karnad's '*Nagamandala*'.

2.   Answer any ***four*** questions from the following: 5×4 = 20

     (a) What does the 'golden paddy' signify?

     (b) What is the mood of the speaker in the opening lines of "The Golden Boat"?

     (c) What is the central idea of the poem "The Golden Boat"?

     (d) "Why not leave me alone"– Who says so and to whom? Explain the significance of the quote.

     (e) "I was a child, and later they told me I grew…"— Who is 'I' here? Who are 'they' here? Why do they consider that the referred person has grown up?

     (f) "I too call myself I"— Who is 'I' here? Explain the significance of the above line.

     (g) Why did Rani pour the curry into the ant hill in '*Nagamandala*'?

     (h) What is the climax of '*Nagamandala*'?

     (i) What happens when Rani is tried for adultery in '*Nagamandala*'?

3.   Answer any ***one*** of the following: 10×1 = 10

     (a) Discuss the theme of marginalization in '*Coolie*'.

     (b) Consider '*Coolie*' as a picaresque novel.

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