

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN ENGLISH

Term-End Examination, 2019

MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE  
IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Time : 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks: 100

**Note :** Answer **all** questions. **All** questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context **any four** of the following passages : [4×5=20]

(a) Stones and stones and the waters of the river  
and the sea

blue stones turn red, red stones blue  
just once try to love.

(b) Layers of rock slide on each-other, lava liquid  
flows cascading down,

Cave roofs are pushed and splintered. mistakes  
and fine follies howl,

Every eye begets its many dreams,

And no King's ordinance is here honoured.

(c) Now I feel

my life,

even if eased like the

cotton that touches the naval blood

of an infant,

under the weight of my ears,

will break down.

(d) In the deep dark of the well

There are wistful shadows waiting

For the maidens who hung

A rope on its nail

But never came back to draw water.

(e) Lifeless fields stretch scorched and dry

Like death in silence

The thick smoke of cowdung-cakes envelope

down the hollow souled village.

(f) My kitchen wakes

to the whirr and hisses of the grinder,

the hiss of the pressure cooker.

I move like my modern kitchen;

a wind up toy.

My kitchen is like a workshop,

It's like butcher's shop with its babble.

2. Compare and contrast the character of Pranesacharya with that of Naranappa in the novel *Samskara*. (500 words.) [20]

OR

Discuss two scenes of your choice from the novel *Tamas*. Why are these scenes important in the structural framework of the novel ? (500 words)

3. Discuss *Tughlaq* as an allegory of politics. (500 words.) [20]

OR

Discuss critically the role of Zia-ud-din Barani in the play *Tughlaq*. (500 words.) [20]

OR

4. Attempt one question each from sections 4(a) and 4(b): [10+10=20]

- (a) Discuss critically the role of Ekoya in the story "Salt" by Mahasweta Devi. (225 words)

**OR**

Discuss the use of images of light and sound in the story "Birds" by Nirmal Verma. (225 words)

- (b) Why does the protagonist of the story "Headmaster, Prawn, Chanachur" pretend madness? Discuss critically. (225 words)

**OR**

The story "Very Lonely, She" by Motilal Jotwani is bifocal in its effect. Discuss. (225 words)

5. How does Umapasrad Mukhopadhyaya blend myth with history in his travel account of Manimahesh? (500 words)

[20]

**OR**

Though Manto's "On Ismat" is a pen-sketch of an individual, yet it is fundamentally a social document. Discuss. (500 words)

----- x -----