

Jadavpur University  
BA Examination, 2025  
First Year Second Semester (Supplementary)  
Department of English  
South Asian Writing in English

Time: 2 hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer any *three* questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Comment on how Dattani's *Dance like a Man* showcases the agency of the woman character in informing the discourse on gender politics.
2. "In 'Crisis in Civilization' Tagore has exposed the hypocrisy of English liberalism transmitted largely through English literary texts". Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
3. "*The Hungry Tide* is a reflection on language and translation." Do you agree with this comment by Amitav Ghosh? Substantiate your answer with textual references.
4. Examine the ways in which Ezekiel portrays the theme of alienation in his poetry.
5. Do you think that *Nagamandala* is a satire on patriarchy or does it reinforce that even more?
6. Critically analyse the tension between 'being' and 'becoming' in the poems of Imtiaz Dharker.
7. Discuss how reading *Cinnamon Gardens* with the awareness that it is a rewriting of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, helps one to make sense of the political necessity of 'writing back to the Empire' in postcolonial South Asia.
8. Discuss how *The Guide* adopts and appropriates the genre of the novel to suit postcolonial Indian realities.
9. Would you agree that the multi-lingual landscape of Kamila Shamsie's *Burnt Shadows* succeeds in weaving an alternative tradition of storytelling for the post-colonial novel?
10. "On one hand, Ambedkar is criticizing multiple political positions, and on the other, persuading his largely reformist Hindu audience to let go of the centrality of the *shastras*." Elaborate with close reference to "The Annihilation of Caste."
11. Critically comment on Kaiser Haq's refusal to become an "Exhibit in alien multicultural museums", with close reference to his poem "Published in the Streets of Dhaka".
12. Attempt a critical appreciation of Agha Shahid Ali's 'Postcard from Kashmir'.

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