

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2025
Second Year Second Semester
Department of English
Idea of the Modern 3: Postcolonial Modernities

Time: 2 hours
marks: 30

Full

Attempt one question from section A and two questions from section B. All questions carry equal marks.

Section A

1. Examine the ways in which dependency theory and the social formations model can help us understand the current predicament of postcolonial developing countries. You may use examples from specific countries or regions to illustrate your answer.
2. How do Haraway's ideas of being "Earthbound" and "making kin" provide us with possibilities of staying "with the trouble" in the Anthropocene rather than escaping or retreating from it? You may refer to both fiction and critical writing by Haraway that you have read.
3. How does Dipesh Chakraborty establish the difference between minority histories and subaltern pasts? What do you think are the implications of this for Asian modernities?
4. "The writings of Arendt and Levinas provide Judith Butler with a discursive environment from which to press for an ethics of cohabitation." Elaborate.

Section B

5. Illustrate the ways in which "the personal is the political" for the characters in either *Mother of 1084* or 'Returning to Haifa'.
6. Discuss *Sanshiro* as a novel mapping the protagonist's engagement with the complexities of an emerging Japanese modernity.
7. Examine the ways in which trauma and healing are depicted in *Cereus Blooms at Night*.
8. Why is the graphic novel format particularly suitable for Satrapi's autobiographical narrative? Discuss with close reference to the text.
9. Examine *Funny Boy* as a queer postcolonial bildungsroman.
10. Write an essay on how personal and familial histories are impacted by identity politics, insurgency and counter-insurgency in the narratives from either Kashmir or the North-East that you have read.
