

Jadavpur University
Bachelor of Arts Examination, 2022
First Year Second Semester
Department of English
South Asian Writing in English

Time: Two hours

Full marks: 30

Answer *any three* questions taking one from each group: [10x3]

Group A

1. Would you agree that Amitav Ghosh documents 'history from below', offering alternative methods of documenting history as well as an alternate 'civilization' in *The Hungry Tide*? Give reasons for your answer.
2. Critically analyse the representation of gendered violence in Bapsi Sidhwa's *The Ice-Candy Man*.
3. Discuss Chetan Raj Shrestha's *The King's Harvest* as a narrative of Sikkim's journey from monarchy to democracy. How does the text explore the politics of belonging in the Himalayas?

Group B

4. Discuss Girish Karnad's treatment of the tradition of storytelling in his play *Nagamandala*.
5. How do Imtiaz Dharker and Agha Shahid Ali negotiate the idea of home and alienation in the poems that you have read?
6. Comment on the significance of Ezekiel's use of "Indian English" in the poems you have read.

Group C

7. Do you agree with Tagore's view that "nationalism is a great menace" and is the root cause of India's problems? Give reasons for your answer.
8. How does Kamila Shamsie distinguish between the 'idea' and 'ideology' of Pakistan in *Offence: The Muslim Case*? How does this help in understanding the broader entity of South Asia in relation to the wider world?