

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY

M.A. ENGLISH 2024

SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAM

THE IDEA OF THE MODERN 3: COLONIAL AND POSTCOLONIAL MODERNITIES

Time: Two hours

Full marks: 30

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

1. Write an essay on the complex depiction of homosociality in Derek Walcott's *Pantomime*.
2. Explain, after Dipesh Chakrabarty, the difference between minority histories and subaltern pasts, giving suitable examples of both categories.
3. Attempt a critical analysis of Orijit Sen's *River of Stories* as an 'outsider's depiction' of Adivasi perspectives on the Narmada's human ecology and the Narmada Bachao Andolan.
4. Examine the stories in *Sabrina and Corina* that you have read in the light of Chicana feminist thought and aesthetics.
5. Comment on the suitability of the narrative structure of *Minor Detail* for presenting Shibli's perspective on the Zionist occupation of Palestine.
6. What, in brief, is world systems theory, and how does Arik Dirlik use it in 'The Postcolonial Aura: Third World Criticism in the Age of Global Capitalism'?
7. In what ways do knowledge and power shape the identities and relationships in *Reef*?
8. Elaborate on the complex relationship between Lucy and her mother in Kincaid's novel, and on the ways in which this relationship affects her life.
9. Is decolonization possible for Indigenous communities within 'postcolonial' countries, and if so, how is the cultural and intellectual hybridity that has resulted from contact to be negotiated? Refer to the writing of Maori and First Nations writers that you have read.