

**B.A. 1st Semester (Honours) Examination, 2019 (CBCS)**

**Subject : English**

**Paper : CC-I**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 60**

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

*Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words  
as far as practicable.*

1. Answer *any ten* of the following questions: 2×10=20
- How did Vasantasena enter the house of Charudatta?
  - Which is the main source of Sudraka's play, *Mrichhakatika*?
  - Who is Sarvilaka?
  - Name two English translators of the book *Mrichhakatika*.
  - Give a brief description of first appearance of Charudatta.
  - Why did the Sutradhara invite Maitreya?
  - Who steals the jewellery from Charudatta's house and why?
  - How, according to Sarvilaka, may a sacred thread be serviceable to a thief?
  - Who were addressed in the 'prologue' of *Abhijnana Shakuntalam*?
  - Who are the biological and the foster-parents of Shakuntala in Kalidasa's play?
  - How does the ascetic describe the location of the hermitage of Kanva?
  - How does Priyamvada describe the relation between mango tree and Vanajyotsni?
  - Who was Goutami?
  - What is the reason of Durvasa's curse upon Shakuntala?
  - What was Kanva's advice to Shakuntala as she went towards the house of Dushyanta in *Abhijnana-Shakuntalam*?
2. Answer *any four* of the following questions: 5×4=20
- Discuss the significance of the episode of finding out the ring in *Abhijnana Shakuntalam*.
  - Briefly discuss the reaction of the plants and animals when Shakuntala prepares to leave the forest for Dushyanta's place.
  - Briefly recount the episode of Vasantasena meeting Rohasena and also comment on her attitude towards Charudatta's son.

- (d) How does Charudatta address Vasantasena in darkness in Act I and what does he ask her to do? State his character in brief.
- (e) Briefly discuss the role of Madhavva in *Abhijanana Shakuntalam*.
- (f) Explain why Sarvilaka became a burglar.

3. Answer *any two* of the following questions:

10×2=20

- (a) (i) Comment on the conflict between 'dharma' and the 'heroic' in the Book of the Assembly Hall of the *Mahabharata*.

Or,

- (ii) What is the significance of the section titled 'Book of the Assembly Hall' in the *Mahabharata*?

- (b) (i) Comment on the character of Vasantasena in *Mrichchakatika*.

Or,

- (ii) Write a critical note on the significance of the title *Mrichchakatika*.

- (c) (i) Critically examine the narrative technique in *Kadambari*.

Or,

- (ii) Discuss Bana's art of characterisation in *Kadambari*?

- (d) (i) Briefly discuss the conflict between love and duty in *Abhijnana Shakuntalam*.

Or,

- (ii) Comment on the use of the theory of Rasa in *Abhijnana Shakuntalam*.

**B.A. 1st Semester (Honours) Examination, 2019 (CBCS)**

**Subject : English**

**Paper : CC-II**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 60**

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

*Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words  
as far as practicable.*

1. Answer *any ten* of the following questions: 2×10=20
- (a) Who were the real parents of King Oedipus?
  - (b) Why was baby Oedipus abandoned?
  - (c) Why did the priests come to speak to Oedipus?
  - (d) Where was Laius killed and by whom?
  - (e) Who solved the riddle of the Sphinx? What was its effect upon Thebes?
  - (f) Who was Creon? Of what did Oedipus accuse him?
  - (g) Why did Jocasta request Oedipus not to send for the shepherd referred to by the messenger from Corinth?
  - (h) Why did Oedipus run away from the place where he had been brought up?
  - (i) Who was responsible for Cadmus's banishment? Name the city that he founded?
  - (j) Who killed the followers of Cadmus in the new land? What did Cadmus do with the teeth of the killer?
  - (k) Which incident led to Teiresias's transformation from a man into a woman?
  - (l) Who was Semele? Why did she become a victim of Juno's wrath?
  - (m) Who was Pentheus? In whose hands did he die?
  - (n) What did the angry Juno do to Teiresias?
  - (o) Name the mother of Narcissus. What did Teiresias say about the future of Narcissus?
2. Answer *any four* of the following questions: 5×4=20
- (a) How does Oedipus curse the unknown killer of Laius?
  - (b) Why did Oedipus blind himself?
  - (c) When and how did Jocasta realise the truth about Oedipus? What was the consequence of this realization?
  - (d) Briefly describe how Bacchus punished the Lydian sailors?

- (e) How did Pentheus describe Bachchus in his speech to his countrymen?
- (f) Whom did Bachchus spare from punishment? What was its consequence?

3. Answer *any two* of the following questions:

10×2=20

(a) (i) Critically discuss the setting of the *Iliad*, Books I & II.

*Or,*

(ii) Attempt a portrayal of the character of Achilles with reference to Books I & II of the *Iliad*.

(b) (i) Examine Oedipus as an Aristotelian tragic hero.

*Or,*

(ii) Examine the role of the Chorus in *Oedipus the King*.

(c) (i) Trace with reference to *Metamorphoses* Book 3, the tragic consequence of change of form.

*Or,*

(ii) Discuss the significance of the notion of 'divine revenge' in *Metamorphoses* Book 3.

(d) (i) Elaborate on the significance of the title of Plautus' *The Pot of Gold*.

*Or,*

(ii) Critically evaluate the use of irony and humour in Plautus' *The Pot of Gold*.

**B.A. Semester I (Honours) Examination 2020 (CBCS)**

**Subject: English**

**Paper: CC-I**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 60**

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

*Candidates are required to answer in their own words as far as practicable.*

1. Answer **any six** of the following questions: 5x6=30
    - a. Comment briefly on the title of *Mrichchakatika*
    - b. Discuss how Vasantasena in *Mrichchakatika* excels despite her status as a courtesan.
    - c. Discuss the significance of Durvasa's curse in *Abhijnana Sakuntalam*.
    - d. Write a short note on the 'bee' episode in *Abhijnana Sakuntalam*.
    - e. Comment on the relationship between Vasantasena and Rohasena in *Mrichchakatika*.
    - f. Comment on the role of Gautami in *Abhijnana Sakuntalam*.
    - g. Write a short note on Anasuya and Priyamvada as foils to Shakuntala.
    - h. Comment on the reversal of Charudatta's fortunes at the moment he is about to be executed.
  
  2. Answer **any three** of the following questions: 10x3=30
    - a. What aspects of Duryodhana's character are revealed in 'The Book of the Assembly Hall' of *The Mahabharata*?
    - b. Critically examine the role of memory in Kalidasa's *Abhijnana Sakuntalam*.
    - c. Analyse Bana's *Kadambari* as the 'embedding of a tale within a tale'.
    - d. Discuss the character of Charudutta as revealed in *Mrichchakatika*.
    - e. Comment critically on the architectural marvels in the palace constructed by Maya as described in 'The Book of the Assembly Hall' of *The Mahabharata*.
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**B.A. Semester I (Honours) Examination 2020 (CBCS)**

**Subject: English**

**Paper: CC-II**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 60**

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*Candidates are required to answer in their own words as far as practicable.*

1. Answer **any six** of the following: 5x6=30
    - a. What was the riddle posed by Sphinx to Oedipus?
    - b. What message did Creon bring from the Oracle of Delphi?
    - c. Comment briefly on Jocasta's role in *Oedipus the King*.
    - d. Comment on the role of fate in *Oedipus the King*.
    - e. How was Narcissus transformed into a flower?
    - f. How did Semele die in *Metamorphoses* Book III?
    - g. What led to Actaeon's tragic death?
    - h. Why did Pentheus's mother kill her own son?
  
  2. Answer **any three** of the following: 10x3=30
    - a. Discuss the question of fate and free will with reference to Sophocles' *Oedipus the King*.
    - b. Discuss the theme of sight and blindness in *Oedipus the King*. How does it affect the idea of truth?
    - c. What is the significance of the Diana-Actaeon story? Did Ovid want to portray the goddess as unjust?
    - d. Comment on the theme of the 'wrath of Achilles' in *Iliad* Book I.
    - e. Plautus's *The Pot of Gold* is a comment on love, marriage and dowry. Discuss.
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**B.A. Semester I (Honours) Examination 2021 (CBCS)**  
**Subject: English**  
**Paper: CC – 1**

**Time: 3 hours**

**Full Marks: 60**

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*Candidates are required to answer in their own words as far as practicable.*

1. Answer **any six** of the following questions **5x6=30**
    - a. What is a Prologue? Comment on the originality of Sudraka's Prologue in *Mrichchhakatika*.
    - b. Comment on the significance of the Court Scene (Act IX) in *Mrichchhakatika*.
    - c. Comment critically on the dramatic function of Vasantasena's ornaments in *Mrichchakatika*.
    - d. Write a short note on the role of Vidusaka in *Mrichchhakatika*.
    - e. Kalidasa's *Abhijnana Shakuntalam* explores self-sacrificing love. Discuss.
    - f. Discuss Father Kanva's counsels to Shakuntala for leading a happy marital life, as she leaves the hermitage to meet her husband in the court.
    - g. Dushyanta's painting expresses his pangs of sorrow when separated from Shakuntala, in Kalidasa's *Abhijnana Shakuntalam*. Discuss.
    - h. Comment on Dushyanta's recognition of son Sarvadamana and reunion with Shakuntala?
  
  2. Answer **any three** of the following questions: **10x3=30**
    - a. "The view of life presented in 'The Book of the Assembly Hall' of *The Mahabharata* is that of a magical reality, rather than a rigid theological vision of life as unreality." Substantiate your answer.
    - b. Analyse the chief rasas in relation to Kalidasa's portrayal of themes and characters in *Abhijnana Shakuntalam*.
    - c. Comment on Kalidasa's presentation of two contrasted worlds, the pleasure garden and the penance grove, side by side in *Abhijnana Shakuntalam*?
    - d. Write a critical note on the character of Vasantasena as presented in the play *Mrichchhakatika*.
    - e. Critically consider Bana's *Kadambari* as a fine specimen of katha.
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**B.A. Semester I (Honours) Examination 2021 (CBCS)**  
**Subject: English**  
**Paper: CC – II**

**Time: 3 hours**

**Full Marks: 60**

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

*Candidates are required to answer in their own words as far as practicable.*

1. Answer **any six** of the following questions **5x6=30**
    - a. Why did Oedipus accuse Creon of conspiring against him?
    - b. Comment on the significance of the messenger from Corinth.
    - c. Comment on the nature of the plague that had engulfed Thebes.
    - d. Comment on the significance of the final conversation between Oedipus and Creon.
    - e. Describe how Acoetes became a follower of Bacchus.
    - f. Why did Echo suffer a lonely, anguished death?
    - g. How, as described in Book III of was Bacchus born?
    - h. Who prompted Semele to ask Jove to appear in his divine glory and why?
  
  2. Answer **any three** of the following questions: **10x3=30**
    - a. Discuss Sophocles' use of dramatic irony in *Oedipus the King*.
    - b. Discuss the role of the Chorus in *Oedipus the King*.
    - c. Comment on the themes of revenge and violence in Book III of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*.
    - d. Discuss the role of the slaves and servants in Plautus' *Pot of Gold*.
    - e. Discuss the epic conventions used by Homer in Books I and II of *The Iliad*.
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