

U.G. 1st Semester Examination - 2018

**ENGLISH
(HONOURS)**

Course Code : ENGH-CC-T-I

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ Hours

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.

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

Answer all the questions.

GROUP-A

1. Answer any **ten** of the following questions :

2×10=20

- a) Who first suggests the game of dicing and why?
- b) Who builds the Assembly Hall for the Pandavas and where?
- c) Who, among the Kauravas, supports Draupadi in the scene of dicing? Who silences his argument?
- d) How does Draupadi obtain the freedom of her husbands?

[Turn over]

- e) Identify the following persons (any **two**):
- i) Prativindhya;
 - ii) Vidura;
 - iii) Sanjaya.
- f) "...a woman had become the refuge of the sons of Pandu" – Who says this and about whom? What does the speaker mean by 'refuge'?
- g) What is the stake in the second game of dicing?
- h) Write a short note on the character of Sakuni.
- i) What is the curse of Draupadi as she departs with her husbands for exile?
- j) Who is Valli and who is addressed as Valli in Canto 24 of *The Book of Vanci*?
- k) What is the purpose of the Chera King's expedition to the North?
- l) Who burns down 'the ancient city of Maturai' and why?
- m) Who is Pattini? Who builds a shrine for her?
- n) What happens to Manimekalai?
- o) Write a short note on the poet of 'The Book of Vanci'.

2. Answer any **four** of the following questions :

5×4=20

- a) How does the game of dicing expose the major characters in *The Book of the Assembly Hall*?
- b) King Dhrtarāstra is torn between parental love and fair play. Comment on his role in *The Book of Assembly Hall* in connection with the game of dicing.
- c) What, makes Duryodhana 'sorely aggrieved' on his return from Indraprastha?
- d) Draupadi's disrobing is a scene of violence countered by her outburst. Discuss.
- e) The central theme of 'The Book of Vanci' is the deification of Kannaki, the chaste woman and kingship. Explain with a close reference to the text.
- f) How does Matalan trace the fate of the relatives of Kannaki and Kevalam?
- g) 'The Book of Vanci' strikes the readers for its depiction of simple, ordinary people as its characters. Comment critically on this claim.
- h) 'Thus these tigerlike men all swore their oaths ...' – Who are the 'tigerlike men' and what do they swear?

GROUP-B

3. Answer any two questions from the following :

10×2=20

- a) i) Karna places more importance on his 'bonds of love' and refuses to be a 'traitor' to his word. Analyse the character of Karna as he emerges in The Temptation Scene. Show how he becomes a victim of caste system.

6+4=10

OR

- ii) The dialogue between Kunti and Karna throws light on his search for identity. Explain.

10

- b) i) Evaluate *Abhijnanasakuntalam* as a play where the sringara rasa predominates. 10

OR

- ii) Comment on the role of Madhavya, the Vidusaka, in *Abhijnanasakuntalam*. 10

- c) What is a prakarana? How does the *Mrichchhakatika* illustrate a prakarana?

2+8=10

OR

- d) Comment on the significance of the title *Mrichchhakatika*. 10