

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2022
ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS
THIRD SEMESTER

COURSE : ALLIED CORE
PAPER : LITERATURE AND IDEAS
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION A

I. Answer any FOUR of the following in about 100 words each: (4x5=20)

1. Why did Rousseau lament the fatal concept of private property? How did it create inequality in society?
2. According to Freud what are the three components of the psychic apparatus?
3. Citing examples distinguish between Apollonian and Dionysian values.
4. Why does Toril Moi urge a clear understanding of the terms “feminine”, “feminist” and “female” as essential to understanding contemporary feminist thought?
5. With an example from *The Prelude* explain “A’priori” and “A’posteriori”.
6. What existentialist ideas does Ted Hughes convey through “Tiger Psalm”?

SECTION B

II. Answer any THREE of the following in about 500 words each: (3x20=60)

7. Explain the philosophical dilemma at the heart of Wordsworth’s *The Prelude*.
8. Discuss Kafka’s *Metamorphosis* as an artistic expression of existentialist thought.
9. Examine Dicken’s *Hard Times* as a critique of capitalism as it reflects and reflects upon the socioeconomic conditions of the Industrial Revolution.
10. Using a feminist framework analyse Makbula Manzoor’s “On the Road”.
11. Consider Plath’s use of the mirror as a tool to explore and articulate her shifting psyche.

SECTION C

III. Attempt a critical reading of the poem below: (1x20=20)

Eve to her Daughters by Judith Wright

It was not I who began it.
Turned out into drafty caves,
hungry so often, having to work for our bread, hearing the children whining,

I was nevertheless not unhappy.
Where Adam went I was fairly contented to go.
I adapted myself to the punishment: it was my life.

But Adam, you know...!
He kept brooding over the insult,
over the trick They had played on us, over the scolding. He had discovered a flaw in himself
and he had to make up for it.

Outside Eden the earth was imperfect,
the seasons changed, the game was flee-footed, he had to work for our living, and he didn't like
it. He even complained of my cooking
(it was hard to compete with Heaven).

So he set to work.
The earth must be made a new Eden
with central heating, domesticated animals, mechanical harvesters, combustion engines,
escalators, refrigerators,
and modern means of communication
and multiplied opportunities for safe investment and higher education for Abel and Cain
and the rest of the family.
You can see how his pride had been hurt.

In the process he had to unravel everything,
because he believed that mechanism
was the whole secret—he was always mechanical-minded.
He got to the very inside of the whole machine
exclaiming as he went, So this is how it works!
And now that I know how it works, why, I must have invented it. As for God and the Other, they
cannot be demonstrated,
and what cannot be demonstrated
doesn't exist.
You see, he had always been jealous.

Yes, he got to the center
where nothing at all can be demonstrated. And clearly he doesn't exist; but he refuses to accept
the conclusion
You see, he was always an egoist.
