

**B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2018**

**ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

**FIRST SEMESTER**

**COURSE : MAJOR CORE**

**PAPER : INTRODUCTION TO PROSE AND POETRY**

**TIME : 3 HOURS**

**MAX. MARKS: 100**

**SECTION A**

**I. Answer any three questions in about 200 words each: (3x15=45)**

1. Explain the merits and demerits of an ambitious man as portrayed in Bacon's essay "Of Ambition."
2. What are the unpleasant aspects of the human condition that the poet wants to escape from, as portrayed in Keats' "Ode to a Nightingale"?
3. What are the specific ideas that Lincoln asks his listeners to commit themselves to, in his Gettysburg Address?
4. What is Tharoor's opinion on Varshney's thesis, "the greater the patterns of inter-communal civic engagement in a city, the lower the likelihood of violent conflict and communal riots"?
5. What does "Good fences make good neighbours" mean in Frost's "Mending Wall"?

**SECTION B**

**II. Answer any two of the following in about 600 words each: (2x20=40)**

1. Comment on the themes in Lamb's essay "Dream Children : A Reverie."
2. Comment on Maya Angelou's assertion of identity in "Phenomenal Woman."
3. State the various reasons cited by Rudd for an apology in his speech "Apology to Australia's Indigenous People."
4. What according to Guha are the lessons the urban intellectuals can learn from the villagers of Mandya?

**SECTION C**

**III. Analyse the following passage with reference to context, style, tone, rhetorical devices and content: (1x15=15)**

**Jackie Kay - "In My Country"**

Walking by the waters  
down where an honest river  
shakes hands with the sea,  
a woman passed round me  
in a slow watchful circle,  
as if I were a superstition;

or the worst dregs of her imagination,  
so when she finally spoke  
her words spliced into bars  
of an old wheel. A segment of air.  
Where do you come from?  
'Here' I said, 'Here. These parts'.