

U.G. 1st Semester Examination - 2020**ENGLISH
[HONOURS]****Course Code : ENGH-CC-T-1**

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) What offends Duryodhana at Yudhisthira's palace at Indraprastha?
- b) Why does Vidura speak against the game of dice?
- c) What is Yudhisthira's final stake and whom does he lose?
- d) Name the person sent to bring Draupadi to the Assembly Hall. What question does she convey through him?

- e) What is the reaction of the assembly when Yudhisthira stakes Draupadi?
- f) "Be sure, the dice are my bows and arrows, the heart of the dice my string, the dicing rug my chariot"— Locate and annotate.
- g) "There are three who own no property"— On what occasion is it said? Mention the three categories who own no property.
- h) Who narrates the story of Kannaki's 'unfortunate anklet' and to whom?
- i) Who is deified as Pattini and by whom?
- j) What happens to Kovalam's parents after his execution?
- k) What sours Kannaki's relationship with her husband?
- l) Who is Manimekalai and what makes her renounce the world?
- m) Name the Aryan kings vanquished by the Ceral king. State the reason.
- n) What is a Vallai song?
- o) Mention the 'foul deed' of the Pantiya king.

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

5×4=20

- a) "...wives are the husband's chattels"
— Discuss the position of women in those days in the light of Bhisma's comment.
- b) How does Draupadi challenge the patriarchal system with her question on Yudhisthira's authority in 'The Dicing'?
- c) Gandhari 'yoked to the law' is a contrast to her husband who blindly favours his son
— Discuss.
- d) Comment on the use of *Akam* convention in Canto 29 of "The Book of Vanci".
- e) Discuss with close reading of the text that "The Book of Vanci" is a tale of violence, death and vengeance.
- f) How does Ilango Atikal present the story of an ordinary woman's transformation into a goddess?

GROUP-B

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

10×2=20

- a) i) Politics and mother's love emerge as the central theme of 'The Temptation of Karna'— Discuss.

OR

- ii) Is Karna a victim of casteism? Give a reasoned answer.
- b) i) Point out the differences between *Nataka* and *Prakarana*. Which form does *The Mrichchhakatika* employ and how?

OR

- ii) *The Mrichchhakatika* explores the love story of Charudatta and Vasantasena set against a strong realistic backdrop.
— Elaborate.
- c) i) Critically comment on the Prologue of Kalidasa's *Abhijnanasakuntalam*.

OR

- ii) In the hermitage of Kanva, Sakuntala and Duhsanta find love and in the Royal Court they are separated suggesting that they are two distinctly opposed spaces.
— Illustrate with reference to the text.