

**B.A. 1st Semester (Honours) Examination, 2017 (CBCS)**

**Subject : English**

**Paper : CC-I**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 60**

*The figures in the right hand margin indicate full marks.*

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

*Answer questions as directed.*

1. Answer *any ten* of the following questions: 2×10=20
- Write a short on 'Rupaka' with reference to Sudraka's *Mrichhakatika*.
  - To which category of dramatic composition does *Mrichhakatika* belong?
  - Which is the main source of Sudraka's play, *Mrichhakatika*?
  - Mention any two qualities of the *dhirodatta* protagonist in Sanskrit drama.
  - Translate into English the title of Sudraka's play *Mrichhakatika*. Name two major English translators of this play.
  - Who steals the jewellery from Charudatta's house and why?
  - What is Maitreya's impression of Vasantasena in Act V of *Mrichhakatika*?
  - How does Charudatta address Vasantasena in the darkness in Act I and what does he ask her to do?
  - In which state was the baby Shakuntala found and by whom?
  - What was the curse of Durvasa and what provoked him to curse Shakuntala in Kalidasa's play?
  - Name the biological and the foster-parents of Shakuntala in Kalidasa's play.
  - How did Shakuntala lose her signet ring? By whom was it found?
  - Identify the principal *bhava* and the *rasa* of Kalidasa's play *Abhijnanashakuntalam*.
  - Mention the place of action of the first and last Acts of Kalidasa's *Abhijnanashakuntalam*.
  - Reproduce in your own words Kanva's advice to Shakuntala as she proceeds towards the house of Dushyanta in *Abhijnanashakuntalam*.
2. Answer *any four* of the following questions: 5×4=20
- Briefly discuss the reaction of the plants and animals when Shakuntala prepares to leave the forest for Dushyanta's palace.
  - Narrate how Dushyanta recognizes Sarvadamana as his own son and how he is reunited with his wife Shakuntala.

**Please Turn Over**

- (c) Briefly recount the episode of Vasantasena meeting Rohasena and also comment on her attitude towards Charudatta's son.
- (d) Explore the significance of the Court Scene (Act IX) in *Mrichhakatika*.
- (e) Briefly analyse the symbolic significance of the Assembly Hall of the *Mahabharata* (Book II).
- (f) Distinguish *Katha* from *akhyayika*. What does Bana say about his ancestors and about himself, and where?

3. Answer any two of the following questions:

10×2=20

- (a) (i) Discuss how the *Book of the Assembly Hall* debates the concept of *dharma*.

Or,

- (ii) Analyse the character of Draupadi in the light of her outburst during her disrobing in the *Book of Assembly Hall of the Mahabharata*.

- (b) (i) The central issue of *Mrichhakatika* is the empowerment of women—Discuss

Or,

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

- (c) (i) Discuss how Bana presents the hermitage of Jabali.

Or,

- (ii) Comment on Bana's narrative art in *Kadambari* (from prescribed portion).

- (d) (i) Comment on the significance of the title of Kalidasa's play *Abhijnanashakuntalam*.

Or,

- (ii) Write a critical note on Kalidasa's portrayal of King Dushyanta in *Abhijnanashakuntalam*.