

MASTER OF ARTS (ENGLISH)

(MEG)

Term-End Examination

December, 2024

**MEG-15 : COMPARATIVE LITERATURE : THEORY
AND PRACTICE**

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Attempt *five* questions in all. Question No. 1
is compulsory. All questions carry equal
marks.

1. Explain with reference to the context any *four*
of the following : 4×5=20

(a) As long as woman is women, then

A man defiles her;

As long as man is man,

A women defiles him.

When the mind's taint is gone, is there
room for the body's taint ?

(b) I sweep his path in readiness

And gaze and gaze

Till my eyes turn blood-shot

I have no peace by night or day.

(c) In happiness nor in sorrow, am I

Neither clean, nor a filthy mire

Not from water, nor from earth

Neither fire, nor from air, is my birth

(d) Not a believer inside the mosque, am I

Nor a pagan disciple of false rites

Not the pure amongst the impure

Neither Moses, nor the Pharaoh.

- (e) The world had been sad since Tuesday. Sea and sky were a single ash-gray thing and the sands of the beach, which on March nights glimmered like powdered light, had become a stew of mud and rotten shellfish.
- (f) I do not ring the temple bell
I do not set the idol on its throne
I do not worship the image with flowers.
- (g) He was dressed like a rag picker. There were only a few faded hairs left on his bald skull and very few teeth in his mouth, and his pitiful condition of a drenched great-grandfather took away any sense of grandeur he might have had.
- (h) The commissary's reception of him hurt his feelings so much that he raised his head proudly and said with dignity, "After such insulting expressions on your part, I have nothing more to say." And he left the place.

2. Discuss retellings in the context of comparative literature. 20
3. What do you understand by the term ‘collective consciousnesses’ ? Elaborate. 20
4. Describe the different approaches to the study of culture. 20
5. How does a shift in perspective affect the understanding/interpretation of a literary work ? Discuss. 20
6. Can translation be regarded as re-tellings ? Discuss. 20
7. How the boundaries between magical and real blurred in “The Very Old Man with Enormous Wings” ? Discuss. 20
8. Discuss the impact of Western literary movements on Indian literature. 20

9. Can *Yajnaseni* be viewed as a feminist text ?

Justify your point of view. 20

10. How do the characters in *Andha-Yug* influence the paths that their lives take ? Give examples. 20

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