

SECOND SEMESTER UG DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2023**(Improvement/Supplementary- 2019 to 2021 Admissions)****COMMON COURSE IN ENGLISH****GENG2A04T: ZEITGEIST: READINGS ON CONTEMPORARY CULTURE****Time: 2 ½ Hours****Maximum Marks: 80****SECTION A: Answer the following questions. Each carries *two* marks.****(Ceiling 25 Marks)**

1. Why did the people believe in Gandhi?
2. Why is the preamble called the 'identity card of the constitution'?
3. What is the significance of the asylum in the story "Toba Tek Singh"?
4. What are Harari's observations about the French revolution?
5. What is the difference between living and surviving?
6. Why does the poet try to teach us how to kill a tree?
7. What were Aaron's dreams while he was staying inside the haystack?
8. What is the difference between, to claim an education and to receive an education?
9. Explain the figure of speech used in the lines, 'burden of the ages, bending your head, breaking your back'.
10. 'But shame lingered as an aftertaste'. What is the inner meaning of this line?
11. The treatment of gender in "The Story of an Hour".
12. What is the context of the poem "Refugee Blues"?
13. What was the content of the 'such a good letter' sent by the protagonist from the prison?
14. 'We sat like owls watching them.' What were they watching?
15. What is Harari's observation of human happiness?

SECTION B: Answer the following questions. Each carries *five* marks.**(Ceiling 35 Marks)**

16. Discuss Pearl S. Buck's portrayal of Mahatma Gandhi in her essay.
17. Comment on the ending of "Toba Tek Singh".
18. What is the message of "On Killing a Tree"?
19. Analyse the communication between Aaron and his goat.
20. The gendered bias in education, according to Adrienne Rich.
21. Kate Chopin's treatment of marriage and family in "The story of an Hour".
22. The animal imagery in "Refugee Blues".
23. Comment on the politics of food in *The Outcaste*.

SECTION C: Answer any *two* questions. Each carries *ten* marks.

24. Critically evaluate Indian democracy in the light of the values enshrined in the Preamble to the constitution of India.
25. Chief Seattle's speech is a powerful plea for respect of Native American's rights and environmental values. Substantiate.
26. Kate Chopin's "The Story of an Hour" is an attempt to highlight the inherent oppressiveness of marriage. Discuss.
27. How does Yuval Harari define meaning of human life and basic human rights?

(2 × 10 = 20 Marks)