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# SECOND SEMESTER UG DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2024

### (Supplementary)

#### **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. What is meant by the phrase "Puppet's World" by Tagore?
- 2. Who is Quaid-e-Azam?
- 3. Why did people believe in Gandhi?
- 4. Explain: "If we let them in they will steal our daily bread".
- 5. Comment on the line: " now oncoming traffic is embracing more transgender children than parents".
- 6. What is the reference to the 'poodle' and the 'cat' in the poem "Refugee Blues"?
- 7. What is the meaning of the term Amnesty?
- 8. What are the conditions laid by Seattle to sell his land to the Great Chief?
- 9. Who was Toba Tek Singh?
- 10. Why is the Preamble called the 'identity card of the constitution'?
- 11. What is the fate of those who rebel against the lovers of violence?
- 12. Why does Harari compare our biochemical system to an air conditioner?
- 13. What were Aaron's dreams about while he was staying inside the haystack?
- 14. What did the speaker ask Jesus in the first prayer?
- 15. How did Harya become an asset to the family?

#### SECTION B: Answer the following questions. Each carries five marks.

## (Ceiling 35 Marks)

- 16. Images of colonialism in "Freedom".
- 17. Explain the significance of the title "Toba Tek Singh".
- 18. Irony as a major tool in Gieve Patel's "On Killing a Tree".
- 19. How does the story "Amnesty" end?
- 20. Explain Harari's observations on human happiness as a product of our biochemistry.
- 21. Briefly comment on Adrienne Rich's concept of education.
- 22. The circumstances that compelled Reuven to decide on selling Zlateh.
- 23. Comment on the climax of 'The Story of an Hour'.

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

- 24. "Claiming an Education" is a critique of the present system of education from a woman's perspective. Substantiate.
- 25. Limbale's "The Outcaste" gives a clear picture of caste discrimination in Indian society.

  Discuss.
- 26. Explain the salient features of the Preamble of the Constitution of India.
- 27. "The First Time I Uttered a Prayer" is a poem about the non-acceptance and identity crises faced by the transgenders in a transphobic society. Discuss.

 $(2 \times 10 = 20 \text{ Marks})$