

QP CODE

A4027

Enrollment Number:

Name:

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, DECEMBER 2024
Third Semester
B21EG02LC – Literature and the Contemporary World
(2023 January admissions)

Time: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 70

Section A

Answer any ten of the following questions in a word or sentence each. Each question carries 1 mark.

1. What question does the son repeatedly ask his father in Sarah Joseph's story?
2. In the poem, what natural elements does Maya Angelou compare herself to when describing her ability to rise?
3. What game were Moxon and the automaton playing when the narrator entered the room?
4. Who is very often called the father of artificial intelligence?
5. Where did Greta Thunberg deliver her "Almost Everything is Black and White" speech?
6. Who was Malala named after?
7. What names does the speaker plan to give their children in "Injuries"?
8. What activity do Bam-Bam and Boy Blue engage in during the blackout?
9. When did Jawaharlal Nehru deliver his iconic "A Tryst with Destiny" speech?
10. What are the three main issues John Lennon addresses in "Imagine"?
11. Who was Ashu's teacher in the story "Housewife (Ginni)"?
12. What significant event does Pablo Neruda reference in "The United Fruit Company" to highlight the exploitation of workers?
13. Where did Shashi Tharoor deliver his "Globalisation and the Human Imagination" speech?
14. Mention the metaphor used for Latin American countries in Neruda's poem "The United Fruit Company"?
15. Who was the chess champion defeated by a super computer in chess in 1997?

(1X10=10)

Section B

Answer any five of the following questions in two or three sentences each. Each question carries 2 marks.

16. What is Greta Thunberg's central argument about the responsibility of wealthier nations in addressing climate change?
17. What is Southwell's primary distinction between thinking and consciousness in the context of artificial intelligence?
18. What did the narrator initially think about Moxon's beliefs regarding machines and their consciousness?
19. How did the automaton respond to being defeated in the chess game?
20. What is the significance of the repeated phrase "I rise" in the poem?
21. How does the speaker respond to oppression and hatred, as expressed in the lines "You may shoot me with your words, / You may cut me with your eyes" in "Still I Rise"?
22. What does the mother in Sarah Joseph's story discover when she peeps through the keyhole of her daughter's room at night?
23. What role did hospitality play in Malala's family?
24. How did Shibnath Pandit's treatment of Ashu affect his self-esteem and gender identity?
25. What is a Banana Republic?

(2X5=10)

Section C

Answer any six of the following questions in one page each. Each question carries 5 marks.

26. Explain how Greta Thunberg's experiences influenced her activism and decision to organise a strike outside the Swedish Parliament.
27. How does John Lennon use the imagery of "Heaven" and "Hell" in the song "Imagine" to convey his message about unity and peace?
28. Explain the importance of Alan Turing's Turing Test in determining whether a machine can think like a human.
29. Discuss the difference between "weak AI" and "strong AI" as described in the excerpt. What are the implications of this distinction?
30. Analyse how the poem "The Moment" encourages the readers to reflect on interconnectedness?
31. Discuss how the theme of secrecy affects the family dynamics in "*The Masculine of 'Virgin.'*"

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32. Explain how the use of imagery in "*Still I Rise*" emphasises the speaker's resilience and strength.
33. Comment on the language used in "Blackout".
34. What is the significance of Lennon's focus on possessions and materialism in "Imagine," and how does it relate to his overall message?
35. How does the poem "The United Fruit Company" reflect the political and economic impact of these corporations?
36. Analyse the symbolism of the phrase "free as a bird" in the context of Malala's upbringing and her determination to challenge gender bias.
37. Explain how the poem "*Injuries*" personifies emotional and verbal abuse.

(5X6=30)

Section D

Answer any two of the following questions in three pages each. Each question carries 10 marks.

38. Discuss the significance of Greta Thunberg's speech "Almost Everything is Black and White" in the context of global climate activism and the role of younger generation
39. How does the excerpt by Gareth Southwell distinguish between a machine's ability to perform intelligent tasks and its potential to possess consciousness?
40. Explore how the teacher's behaviour towards Ashu illustrates the broader consequences of rigid educational practices and societal expectations in Tagore's "Housewife".
41. How does Maya Angelou use the speaker's personal experiences to reflect the broader struggles of marginalised communities?

(10X2=20)