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( July )

ENGLISH

( Honours )

( Indian Writing in English )

Marks : 75

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions*

1. Explain, with reference to the context, any three of the following :  $5 \times 3 = 15$
- (a) The peasants came like swarms of flies and buzzed the name of God a hundred times to paralyse the Evil One.
- (b) the wet stones glistening like sleepy crocodiles, the dry ones shaven water-buffaloes lounging in the sun  
The poets only sang of the floods.
- (c) But, I did see beside  
The older tombs some marigolds bloom  
and the  
Wild red bougainvillae  
Climbing their minarets.

- (d) her last wish to be cremated here  
twisting uncertainly like light  
on the shifting sands.
- (e) I covet the presence your home has.  
I want to be like that :  
Cool, dark, subterranean.

2. Answer any four of the following :  $15 \times 4 = 60$

- (a) Comment on Narayan's ironic vision of life as depicted in *The Bachelor of Arts*.
- (b) "Desai's novels constitute together the documentation, through fiction, of radical female resistance against a patriarchally defined concept of normality."  
Critically analyse Anita Desai's novel, *Fire on the Mountain* in the light of the above observation.
- (c) Mulk Raj Anand's *Coolie* deals with "the misery and wretchedness of the poor and their struggle for a better life". Discuss.
- (d) Justify the title of the novel, *The Shadow Lines*.
- (e) *From Heaven Lake* is "an intriguing exploration of places and people in China and Tibet". Discuss.

- (f) Write a critical essay on any *one* of the following :
- (i) Eunice de Souza's criticism of her own catholic community
  - (ii) The confessional mode in Kamala Das' poetry
  - (iii) Significant features of A. K. Ramanujan's or Nissim Ezekiel's poetry
  - (iv) The 'Indian imagination' in Jayanta Mahapatra's poetry

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