

- e) Assess critically the historical context of Sudraka's *Mrichchhakatika*.
- f) Why is Kalidasa's play *Abhijnana Shaktuntalam* termed as an irony play? Bring out in your own words the artistic usage of this device in the play.

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U.G. 1st Semester Examination - 2022

ENGLISH

[HONOURS]

Course Code : ENGH-CC-T-1

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ Hours

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

Answer all the questions.

GROUP-A

1. Answer any **ten** of the following questions:

2×10=20

- a) Mention one incident which enhanced the jealousy of Duryodhana.
- b) Who suggests the game of dicing and why?
- c) Bring out the weaknesses of Yudhisthira.
- d) Why does the dicing event assume cardinal importance in *Mahabharata*?
- e) Why does Duryodhana threaten Shakuni with suicide and with what result?
- f) Who predicts the downfall of the Kauravas?

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- g) What are the stakes in sequel to dicing?
- h) Mention the two boons that Draupadi accepts from Dhritarashtra.
- i) Why does Vidura interrupt the Game of Dicing?
- j) "The king is befooled and crazed by the game" – Who says this and in what context?
- k) Who swears to kill Shakuni?
- l) Where was King Cenkuttuvan camping and why?
- m) Who is enshrined in Azhagar hills and why?
- n) Who was defeated by King Cenkuttuvan and how?
- o) Mention the different stages in which Kannaki's apotheosis occurs.

2. Answer any **four** of the following questions:

$$5 \times 4 = 20$$

- a) What did King Satakarni offer to the Chera King Senkuttuvan while he was preparing for expedition to the north and with what results?
- b) The anklet is an instrument of justice, vengeance and karma in *The Book of Vanci*. Discuss with suitable textual illustrations.

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- c) How is the theme of loss and death poignantly depicted in *The Book of Vanci*? Discuss with suitable textual illustrations.
- d) Discuss the significance of Draupadi's question at the Game of Dice.
- e) Show how Shakuni exploits Dhritarashtra emotionally before the Game of Dice.
- f) What happened to Duryodhana when he visited Indraprastha and why? Discuss with suitable textual illustrations.

GROUP-B

3. Answer any **two** of the following questions:

$$10 \times 2 = 20$$

- a) Why does the scene of the temptation of Karna assume so much significance in the Epic? Discuss with suitable arguments.
- b) Comment critically on the issue of class difference between the Suta and the Kshatriya as exemplified in *The Book of Effort*.
- c) Assess critically the narrative between Bhishma and Drona as found in *The Book of Effort*.
- d) What is 'Prakarana'? Discuss with reference to *Mrichchhakatika*.

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[Turn over]