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**Roll No.**

S.No. of Question Paper : 2588

Unique Paper Code : 2032201102

Name of the Paper : **Indian Classical Literature**

Name of the Course : DSC-Bachelor of Arts (Programme) with English

Semester : I

**Duration : 3 Hours**

**Maximum Marks : 90**

(Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.)

This question paper contains 2 parts : Part A and Part B. Both parts are compulsory.

Candidates have to answer *all* the questions in Part A and any *three* questions in Part B.

Questions in Part A carry 10 marks each and questions in Part B carry 20 marks each.

## Part-A

Answer *all* questions.

1. (a) Write a short note on the concept of 'peace' with reference to Kṛiṣṇa peace proposal in *The Mahabharata*.

*Or*

- (b) Critically comment on the character of Dhritarashtra in *The Mahabharata*.

2. (a) Discuss the significance and the role of Śakuntala's friends in *Abhijñānaśākuntalam*.

*Or*

- (b) Discuss the use of natural imagery by Kālidāsa in *Abhijñānaśākuntalam*.

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3. (a) Discuss the elements of *akam* and *puram* poetry in *Cilappatikaram*.

Or

- (b) Elucidate on the theme of chastity and honour in "The Book of Vañci".

### Part-B

Answer any three.

4. (a) Comment critically on the role of the Pāṇḍavas in the prescribed sections of *The Mahabharata*. Do you think it was justified with reference to the ideals of *dharma* as shown in the epic ? Discuss.

Or

- (b) Discuss the significance of Draupadi's questions in the game of dicing in *The Mahabharata*. How, according to you, does this reflect women's rights and position in the male dominated world order of the times ?

5. (a) The contrast between life in the royal courts and life amidst nature discusses the duality of appearance versus reality in *Abhijñānaśākuntalam*. How does this have a bearing on the characters in the play ? Comment critically.

Or

- (b) Concealment and recognition appear repeatedly as motifs before establishing as central themes in *Abhijñānaśākuntalam*. Discuss critically with reference to the text, focussing on how Kalidasa builds these as themes in *Abhijñānaśākuntalam*.

6. (a) Comment on the role of the supporting characters in "The Book of Vañci." How does Adigal deploy these minor/supporting characters to discuss the theme of valour and virtue in *Cilappatikaram* ? Give a reasoned answer.



Or

- (b) The narrative shifts from focusing on personal tragedy to broader themes like kingship, honour and justice and thus moving from individual pain to collective redemption. Comment critically on the above statements with reference to "The Book of Vañci."
- (a) How has the concept of 'justice' been dealt with in Indian classical literature ? Analyse critically with reference to any *two* texts that you have studied.

Or

- (b) The classical period upheld high orders of morality and culture of a supposedly ideal world. How would you interpret this statement with reference to any *two* texts that you have studied. Discuss critically.