

[This question paper contains 4 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 977

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Unique Paper Code : 2032201102

Name of the Paper : INDIAN CLASSICAL  
LITERATURE

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

Semester : I

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 90

**Instructions for Candidates**

1. Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. This question paper contains 2 parts. Both parts are compulsory.
3. Candidates have to answer **ALL** the questions in **Part A** and **ANY THREE** questions in **Part B**.
4. Questions in **Part A** carry **10** marks each and questions in **Part B** carry **20** marks each.

P.T.O.

## Part A

1. (a) Write a short note on the role of Sakuni in the Dicing episode in the *Mahabharata*.

OR

- (b) Identify the speaker, and the context and comment critically on the following lines: "Surrounded by your five brothers, you shall surely shine forth Kama, like Brahma surrounded by the Vedas and their Branches. Endowed with virtues, the eldest and the best among relations who are the best, your title will no longer be that of a son of Suta, you shall be a heroic Partha".
2. (a) Write a short note on the motif of the curse in the play *Abhijnanasakuntalam*.

OR

- (b) Identify the speaker, and the context and comment critically on the following lines:

"How then can I accept her suspecting myself to be an adulterer as she bears manifests signs of being with child"?

3. (a) Write a short note on the women characters in the *Book of Vanci*.

OR

- (b) Identify the speaker, and the context and comment critically on the following lines :

“Praised by the gods, she ascended To heaven.”

Part B

4. (a) Critically comment on the role of Dhritarashtra as king in the *Mahabharata*.

OR

- (b) In the Dicing episode of the *Mahabharata* there is a complex interplay between Dharma and women's position in the world. Critically comment.

5. (a) Offer a critical commentary on the portrayal of Sakuntala's character in the play *Abhijnanasakuntalam*.

OR

P.T.O.

- (b) Comment on the significance of Kanva's and Marica's hermitage in the life and career of the King in Kalidasa's play.
6. (a) Critically comment on the apotheosis of Kannagi to Pattini in the "Book of Vanci."

**OR**

- (b) Critically comment on the expedition of Cenkuttuvan to the north in the Book of Vanci.
7. (a) Discuss the concept of Karma and Dharma (action and justice) as central themes with special reference to any one of the prescribed texts.

**OR**

- (b) The characters of Shakuntala and Draupadi offer unique insights into the position and role of women in the contemporary social order of their times. Discuss.