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Name.....⁰⁶⁻⁸

Reg. No.....

FOURTH SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, JUNE 2013
(CUCSS)

English Language and Literature

EN 4 E 21—INDIAN ENGLISH FICTION

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 36 Weightage

I. Answer *all* the following questions in a word, phrase or sentence :—

- 1 Which are the Jobs that Munoo takes up ?
- 2 Name Swami's close friends.
- 3 From which literary work does Markandaya take the title *Nectar in a Sieve* ?
- 4 What is Swami Yogananda's original name ?
- 5 What childhood prediction haunts Maya in *Cry, the Peacock* ?
- 6 Who is known as the Brass Monkey in *Midnight's Children* ?
- 7 From whose point of view is *The Strange Case of Billy Biswas* presented ?
- 8 Who is Tehmul in *Such a Long Journey* ?

(8 × ½ = 4 weightage)

II. Write a paragraph of about 150 words each on any *six* of the following :—

- 9 The blending of west and east in *Cat and Shakespeare*.
- 10 Familial ties in *Swami and Friends*.
- 11 Portrayal of pre-independence city life in *Coolie*.
- 12 The significance of the tannery in *Nectar in a Sieve*.
- 13 The multiple layers of meaning in *A Dream in Hawaii*.
- 14 Use of flashback in *Cry, the Peacock*.
- 15 The significance of the title *Midnight's Children*.
- 16 Violence in *The Shadow Lines*.
- 17 Meena and Bilasia in *The Strange Case of Billy Biswas*.
- 18 The Parsi ethos as depicted in *Such a Long Journey*.

(6 × 2 = 12 weightage)

Turn over

III. Write essays of about 450 words each on any **four** of the following, choosing *one* from each section :—

Section A

- 19 "Raja Rab's novel *Cat and Shakespeare* is a metaphysical novel in the truest sense." Elucidate.
- 20 "*Swami and Friends* provides a window into the life-blood of South India: its unique culture, its simple people and also its paradoxes." Discuss.
- 21 "*Coolie* depicts a fight for survival with raw immediacy." Comment.

Section B

- 22 In *The Strange Case of Billy Biswas* Arun Joshi highlights "the incongruity of modern civilisation influenced by materialistic aggrandizement."
- 23 Comment on Markandaya's depiction of the traditional rural Indian family in *Nectar in a Sieve*.
- 24 "Bhabani Bhattacharya's *A Dream in Hawaii* is a novel that shows the conflicting values of the East and the West." Discuss.

Section C

- 25 Consider how Deshpande depicts the seething tensions **and inner** turmoil within a seemingly placid wife and mother in *That Long Silence*.
- 26 The novel *The Shadow Lines* "probes the various faces of violence and the extent to which its fiery arms reach under the guise of fighting for freedom." Discuss.
- 27 Critically examine Anita Desai's portrayal of the growth, development and dimax of the protagonist's neurosis in *Cry, the Peacock*.

Section D

- 28 Comment on the political criticism in *Midnight's Children* and *Such a Long Journey*.
- 29 To what extent do writers of fiction in English succeed in projecting a true picture of the Indian psyche ?
- 30 Examine the qualities that set Indian English fiction apart from other New literatures in English.

(4 × 5 = 20 weightage)