

FAROOK COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), KOZHIKODE
Fourth Semester MA English Degree Examination, April 2025

MEN4C11 – English Literature in the 21st Century

(2022 Admission onwards)

Time: 3hours

Max. Weightage : 30

PART A

I. Answer the following questions in 2 or 3 sentences. (.5x6=3 weight) – 15 marks

1. Explain the phrase “journeying is difficult” in the poem “Yangtze”.
2. What is the meaning of the line “Future was a beautiful place” in the poem by Simon Armitage?
3. What is the reason for Emily leaving Amir at the end of the play *Disgraced*?
4. How did Chengez happen to meet Erica in the novel *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*?
5. What is the tragedy that happened in the life of Mark Schluter in the novel *The Echo Maker*?
6. Why did the Chinese soldiers destroy Joe’s camera in the play *Chimerica*?

PART B

II. Annotate any two of the following. (2 x 2 =4 weight) – 20 marks

7. I pulled that future out of the north wind
at the landfill site, stamped with today’s date,
riding the air with other such futures,
all un-lived in and now fully extinct.
8. Imagine my love and I,
our sundry others, Blair’d in the cash
of our beeswax’d cars, our crash clothes, free,
we raised our charged glasses over unparasol’d tables
East, babbling our lingo, flecked by the chalk of Britannia!
9. Where we come from , they
gave their sorrow a name
and drowned it.
10. We stood on their lino
And breathed, and below us
The dark, peopled water
Was leaning and listening.

PART – C

III. Write a short essay on any one of the following in 300 words. (1x3=3 weight)

11. The mocking of Western ideology in the poem “Rong Radio Station”.
12. Geopolitical conflicts as represented in the play *Chimerica*.
13. Issues of racism and cultural conflicts in the novel *The Sympathizer*

PART – D

IV. Write an essay on four of the following choosing one from each section in about 450 words each. (4x5=20 weight)

Section A

14. Analysis of the present world and the depiction of a dystopian view of the future in the poem “A Vision” by Simon Armitage.
15. ”The Poem “Alabanza: in Paraise of the Local Hundred” depicts the labor struggles and the resilience of human dignity”. Substantiate.
16. The exposition of environmental and social issues that the present China faces as presented in the poem “Yangtze”.

Section B

17. Critically examine the idea of ‘Home’ and its emotional dynamics in the context of the play *August: Osage County*.
18. “Plays are an inherently political act”. Examine this in the context of the play *Chimerica*.
19. The role of art in the cultural reshaping of the world as presented in the play *Disgraced* by Ayad Akhtar.

Section C

20. Struggles of the self and racial and cultural struggles in the novel *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* by Mohsin Hamid
21. The theme of freedom and oppression in *Purple Hibiscus*
22. Ghosh’s approach to storytelling as an alternative understanding of humanity’s relationship with Nature.

Section D

23. Critically analyze the thematic and structural complexities of the plays you have studied.
24. “Social and political engagement is an aspect of 21st Century British poetry”. Examine this statement with reference to some of the poems studied.
25. Critically examine the themes of identity and belonging in some of the novels prescribed.

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FAROOK COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), KOZHIKODE

Fourth Semester MA English Degree Examination, April 2025

MEN4E12 – Literature and Ecology

(2022 Admission onwards)

Time: 3 hours

Max. Weightage : 30

PART A

I. Answer the following questions in 2 or 3 sentences. (0.5x6=3 weight)

1. What is the main theme of John Burnside's *Penitence*?
2. How does George Kenny use imagery in *Sunset on Portage*?
3. Discuss the symbol of the river in *The Negro Speaks of Rivers* by Langston Hughes.
4. What does Frost mean by "the brook in the city" in *A Brook in the City*?
5. What is the name of the tiger in *Life of Pi* ?
6. Who is the antagonist in the conservationist by Nadine gordimer ?

PART B

II. Annotate any two of the following. (2x2=4 weight)

7. "I've known rivers: I've known rivers ancient as the world and older than the flow of human blood in human veins."
8. " We listened and we learned
The lessons of our history"
9. "The brook in the city is deep and wide,
It winds and turns, a maze of currents."
10. But by now he could only
bar himself in and wait
for the great flint to come singing into his heart

PART C

III. Write a short essay on any one of the following in 300 words. (1x3=3 weight)

11. How does Langston Hughes' *The Negro Speaks of Rivers* reflect the African-American experience?
12. What does "History Lesson" share the readers on the human impact on nature?
13. Developmental stages of ecocriticism enunciated by Glotfelty.

PART D

IV. Write an essay on four of the following choosing one from each section in about 450 words each. (4x5=20 weight)

Section -A

14. Discuss the impact of anthropocentrism in Frost's poem 'A Brook in the city'.
15. What are the lessons that Waterman deals with, in his 'History Lesson'?
16. How do nature and the environment serve as a central theme in the selected poetry readings? Discuss the treatment of these themes in at least three poems from the syllabus.

Section-B

17. Discuss how *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel incorporates ecological themes. Use specific examples from the text to support your argument.
18. Critically evaluate *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson in terms of its contribution to environmental awareness and the discussion of human impacts on nature.
19. Explain the ecological significance of *Replenishing the Earth* by Wangari Maathai and its relevance to contemporary environmental movements.

Section- C

20. Discuss the main themes of *The Conservationist* by Nadine Gordimer and how they relate to the human relationship with the environment.
21. How does Vandana Shiva's *Staying Alive* challenge modern ecological practices and emphasize the interconnectedness of women and nature?
22. Preeti Ranjan Gosh's ideas on the eco-poetics and understanding of environmental aesthetics.

Section-D

23. Explore the significance of ecocriticism as explained by Cheryll Glotfelty in "Literary Studies in an Age of Environmental Crisis."
24. Evaluate the relationship between gender and ecology in Dietrich's "Women, Ecology, and Culture." How does this influence environmental discourse?
25. In *Replenishing the Earth*, Wangari Maathai emphasizes the interconnectedness of environmental conservation, spiritual values and community empowerment. Elaborate.

FAROOK COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), KOZHIKODE
Fourth Semester MA English Degree Examination, April 2025
MEN4E16 – Dalit Studies
 (2022 Admission onwards)

Time: 3 hours

Max. Weightage : 30

Part A

I. Answer the following questions in 2 or 3 sentences. (.5x6=3 weight)

1. What is lacking in the histories of the world according to Poikayil Appachan?
2. Identify the Hindu-Christian family in S Joseph's poem "Identity Card."
3. Who is the protagonist in Prakash Jadhav's poem "Under Dadar Bridge?"
4. What is the significance of the title in Potheri Kunhambu's novel *Saraswati Vijayam*?
5. What is the difference in Dalit women's speech according to Gopal Guru?
6. What does the metaphor of madness signify in C Ayyappan's short fiction?

Part B

II. Annotate any two of the following. (2x2=4 weight)

7. "Think of it/Regret fills within/Let me add something/In my own melody"
8. "My Brahmin teacher tells me/"You idiot, use the language correctly!"
9. "Our hands met kneading/ In her rice and fish curry."
10. "She has left/The ruined sculpture of her relics."

Part C

III. Write a short essay on any one of the following in 300 words. (1x3=3 weight)

11. Critically contextualise the cultural politics of difference in Dalit poetry.
12. Discuss the global linkages and legacies of Dalit literature as per Limbale.
13. Elaborate the subversive paradigms of Dalit fictional narratives.

Part D

IV. Write an essay on four of the following choosing one from each section in about 450 words each. (4x5=20 weight)

Section – A

14. Discuss the critique of Malayali Culture and "Keralaness" by Pampirikunnu.
15. Explain the critical dimensions of Dalit writing in *Towards an Aesthetics of Dalit Literature*.
16. Multiple exclusions and othering faced by Dalit women according to Gopal Guru.

Section – B

17. Explain the anti-reservation commonsense critically represented in “Identity Card.”
18. Elaborate the underbelly of Indian society as picturised in “Under the Dadar Bridge”
19. Analyse the education system in the poem “Which Language Should I Speak?”

Section – C

20. Discuss *Joothan* as an Indian narrative on Varnasramadharm and caste violence.
21. Attempt an intersectional reading of Meena Kandasamy’s *Gypsy Goddess*.
22. Critically explore the fictional and critical representation of caste by C Ayyappan

Section – D

23. Comment on the primacy of Constitutional values of representative democracy.
24. Elaborate the cultural and democratic values and significance of Dalit literature.
25. Illustrate the critique of Kerala modernity in Dalit literature and writing.