



Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women
Deemed to be University Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956, Category 'A' by MHRD (now MoE)
Re-accredited with 'A++' Grade by NAAC. CGPA 3.65/4, category I by UGC
Coimbatore - 641 043, Tamil Nadu, India

Bachelor's Degree Examination – May 2025
VI Semester

Class : III UG
Major : English

Time : 3 Hours
Max. Marks: 100

21BENC24 Indian Immigrant Literature

Course Outcomes:

- CO1: Examine the life of diasporic Indians and their relationship with the ancestral land
CO2: Value difference among people and express an appreciation of cultures (language, religion, philosophy, family and community structures, and material culture)
CO3: Develop their skills in discussion, literary analysis, and written response
CO4: Summarize, analyze, integrate, and draw conclusions about particular works of literature
CO5: Analyse the culture and historical developments in India's colonial and post colonial history

Part A

10 x 1 = 10

Choose the Correct Answer

1. What is the primary focus of immigrant writing?
a. Historical events
b. Political Ideologies
c. Scientific discoveries
d. Cultural assimilation and identity
CO1K1
2. Which of the following is a characteristic of immigrant literature?
a. Focus on technological advancements
b. Exploration of cultural displacement
c. Emphasis on scientific theories
d. Celebration of political power
CO2K2
3. In A.K. Ramanujan's poem "Small-Scale Reflections on a Great House," what does the "great house" symbolize?
a. A modern apartment
b. A traditional Indian household
c. A government building
d. A school
CO2K4
4. What is the tone of Nissim Ezekiel's poem "Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T.S.?"
a. Serious and somber
b. Angry and confrontational
c. Humorous and satirical
d. Melancholic and nostalgic
CO3K4
5. In Salman Rushdie's "Imaginary Homelands," what does Rushdie primarily explore?
a. The history of Indian politics
b. The concept of home and identity for immigrants
c. The economic development of India
d. The scientific achievements of the diaspora
CO1K2
6. Which of the following is a key theme in "Imaginary Homelands?"
a. The importance of technology
b. The struggle for political power
c. The duality of cultural identity
d. The celebration of war heroes
CO4K4
7. In Jhumpa Lahiri's *Interpreter of Maladies*, what is Mr. Kapasi's profession?
a. A doctor
b. A tour guide
c. An interpreter and part-time tour guide
d. A school teacher
CO1K1
8. What does Mrs. Das's confession to Mr. Kapasi reveal about her character?
a. She is deeply religious
b. She is struggling with guilt and emotional isolation
c. She is indifferent to her family
d. She is overly confident and self-assured
CO4K4
9. In Bharati Mukherjee's *Jasmine*, what is the protagonist's original name?
a. Jyoti
b. Pushpa
c. Meena
d. Lakshmi
CO3K1
10. How would you compare the narrative style of Bharati Mukherjee's *Jasmine* with Anita Rau Badami's *Tamarind* mem
a. Both use a linear narrative structure
b. Mukherjee's style is more fragmented, while Badami's is more linear
c. Both focus heavily on dialogue
d. Mukherjee's style is poetic, while Badami's is descriptive
CO3K4

Part B
Answer ALL questions

5 x 6 = 30

Each answer should not exceed 400 words or two pages

- 11.a. Define immigrant writing and discuss its key characteristics. CO1K2
(or)
- 11.b. Analyze how Indian immigrant writing reflects the tension between preserving native culture and assimilating into a foreign culture. Provide examples from the texts prescribed. CO5K3
- 12.a. In A.K. Ramanujan's poem "Small-Scale Reflections on a Great House," how does the poet use imagery and symbolism to explore themes of memory, identity, and cultural heritage? Discuss with reference to specific lines from the poem. CO3K3
(or)
- 12.b. Compare and contrast Nissim Ezekiel's "Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa TS" with A.K. Ramanujan's "Small-Scale Reflections on a Great House." How do these poems reflect different aspects of the Indian immigrant experiences. CO4K4
- 13.a. Summarize Salman Rushdie's essay "Imaginary Homelands." What are the key arguments Rushdie makes about the concept of home and identity for immigrants? CO2K2
(or)
- 13.b. How does Salman Rushdie's "Imaginary Homelands" challenge traditional notions of national identity and belonging? Discuss how his ideas resonate with the experiences of other Indian immigrant writers. CO2K4
- 14.a. In Jhumpa Lahiri's *Interpreter of Maladies*, how does the author use the character of Mr. Kapasi to explore themes of communication, cultural dislocation, and unfulfilled desires? CO3K3
(or)
- 14.b. Analyze the role of cultural misunderstandings in Jhumpa Lahiri's *Interpreter of Maladies*. How do these misunderstandings highlight the challenges faced by Indian immigrants in adapting to a new culture? CO3K4
- 15.a. Summarize the plot of Bharati Mukherjee's *Jasmine*. How does the protagonist's journey reflect the struggles and transformations of Indian immigrants in America? CO4K2
(or)
- 15.b. Compare the portrayal of cultural identity in Bharati Mukherjee's *Jasmine* and Anita Rau Badami's *Tamarind Mem*. How do the two novels differ in their exploration of the immigrant experience? CO5K4

Part C
Answer ALL questions

5 x 12 = 60

Each answer should not exceed 800 words or four pages

- 16.a. Explain how the themes of displacement, identity, and cultural conflict shape immigrant Narratives. CO1K4
(or)
- 16.b. Appraise the role of cultural identity in immigrant literature. How do authors depict the struggle between assimilation and preserving one's heritage in their works? CO4K5
- 17.a. Examine the structure and narrative style of "Small-Scale Reflections on a Great House." CO3K4
(or)
- 17.b. Analyze the use of Indianized English in "Good bye Party for Miss Pushpa TS." How does Ezekiel's manipulation of language contribute to the poem's effect? CO2K5
- 18.a. Assess Rushdie's concept of the "imaginary homeland." How does he use this idea to describe the experience of diaspora and displacement? Provide examples from the text. CO4K5
(or)
- 18.b. What are the main themes explored in Salman Rushdie's "Imaginary Homelands?" How do these essays reflect his perspectives on exile, memory, and identity? CO3K3

- 19.a. Estimate the representation of gender roles in *Interpreter of Maladies*. Do Lahiri's female characters challenge or reinforce traditional gender expectations? Support your argument with examples from the stories. CO2K5
- (or)
- 19.b. Consider the significance of communication and miscommunication in *Interpreter of Maladies*. How do the characters struggle to express their emotions, and what consequences arise from these struggles? CO5K5
- 20.a. Discuss the significance of Jasmine's multiple identities throughout the novel. How do her various names (Jyoti, Jasmine, Jase, Jane) reflect her shifting identity and adaptation to different cultural contexts? CO4K3
- (or)
- 20.b. If *Tamarind Mem* were to be adapted into a film or a modernized retelling, what changes would you make to the narrative, themes, or characters to reflect contemporary issues? Justify your creative choices based on the novel's core messages. CO5K6