



WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY
B.A. Honours 1st Semester Examination, 2022-23

ENGACOR01T-ENGLISH (CC1)
INDIAN CLASSICAL LITERATURE



Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.
Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.
All symbols are of usual significance.*

Essay type and short question/note cannot be attempted from the same text.

SECTION-I

Answer any *three* of the following in not more than 500 words each

15×3 = 45

1. (a) How has Kalidāsa depicted the character of Sakuntala? Answer with a close reference to the Acts of *Abhijnānasākuntalam* prescribed in your syllabus.

OR

- (b) What role does Nature play in Kalidāsa's *Abhijnānasākuntalam*?

2. (a) What is prakarana? Would you consider Śudraka's play *Mrichchhakatikam* as a prakarana? Justify.

OR

- (b) How has Śudraka treated his women characters in the play *Mrichchhakatikam*?

3. (a) Critically analyse the questions that Draupadi raises in the dicing episode of "Sabha Parva" (The Book of the Assembly Hall) of the *Mahabharata*.

OR

- (b) Critically discuss the position of women depicted in "Sabha Parva" (The Book of the Assembly Hall) of the *Mahabharata*.

4. (a) Critically analyse the narrative structure of Banabhatta's *Kadambari* with a close reference to the portion prescribed in the syllabus.

OR

- (b) Comment on the role and significance of the parrot in Banabhatta's *Kadambari*.

SECTION-II

5. Answer any *one* of the following in about 200 words:

5×1 = 5

- (a) Briefly comment on the reactions of the plants and animals when Śākuntala was about to leave for her husband's place.
- (b) Comment on the significance of Act I of *Mrichchhakatikam*.
- (c) Comment on the role and character of Shakuni in the "Sabha Parva" (The Book of the Assembly Hall) of the *Mahabharata*.
- (d) What features of a "gadya kavya" can be found in *Kadambari*?

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