2024

ENGLISH

(Honours Elective)

Paper : ENG–HE–6056

(Life Writing)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer the following questions : 1×10=10

(a) What role did Binodini play in *Sadhabar Ekadashi* when it was staged at Lahore?

(b) Who is the narrator of *The Truth About Me : A Hijra Life Story*?

(c) Who was Bailey in Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*?

(d) What made Gandhi ashamed of himself during his visit of South Africa?

(e) Write the Marathi title of Limbale's autobiography, *The Outcaste*.

(f) Where do Richard and his family move to after the house burns down?

(g) Who is Doraisamy in *The Truth About Me : A Hijra Life Story*?

(h) In which year was Richard Wright's *Black Boy* written?

(i) Who was Bernard mentioned in *Confessions*?

(j) Write the name of the game played by the boys of the narrator's caste during the picnic as mentioned in *The Outcaste*.

2. Answer the following questions : 2×5=10

(a) What kind of treatment is meted out to Revathi at school?

(b) Comment on the idea of racism as expressed in *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

(c) How is the family in Richard Wright's *Black Boy* portrayed?

(d) Comment on Chughtai's participation in Janmashtami at Lataji's house.

(e) Discuss briefly about Gandhi's married life from your reading of *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*.

(Continued)

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 5×4=20

(a) Discuss the significance of the title of *The Outcaste*.

(b) Write a note about trans-sexuality from your reading of Revathi's *The Truth About Me : A Hijra Life Story*.

(c) Write a note on Rousseau's depiction of his mother's character in his autobiography, *Confessions*.

(d) How is the condition of marginalized women in the late nineteenth century Bengal expressed in *My Story and My Life as an Actress*?

(e) Critically comment on Gandhi's candid revelations about his marriage.

(f) Write a note on the character of M. Lambercier.

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 10×4=40

(a) Critically examine Gandhi's autobiography as an appropriate example of the genre of life writing. Substantiate your answer with textual reference.

(Turn Over)

(b) Discuss how Richard Wright depicts the themes of poverty, hunger and racism in his autobiography, *Black Boy*.

(c) Elaborate the themes of racism, gender and identity in Maya Angelou's autobiography, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

(d) Comment on Gandhi's portrait as revealed in the prescribed sections of his book, *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*.

(e) *The Truth About Me : A Hijra Life Story* shows that the shaping of gender identities is always through a process of violence. Discuss.

(f) Discuss Binodini Dasi's personality from her book, *My Story and My Life as an Actress*.

(g) Discuss how the sagas of dispossession and resistance are narrated in Limbale's autobiographical novel, *The Outcaste*.

(h) Write a note on the theme of institutional Church in *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

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