

Time: 2 hours

Max. marks: 60

- N.B: 1. All questions are compulsory.**
2. All questions carry equal marks.

Q1. Read the following poem and attempt the question 1 and 2 given below:

The Pulley – by George Herbert

When God at first made man,
Having a glass of blessings standing by,
“Let us,” said he, “pour on him all we can.
Let the world’s riches, which dispersed lie,
Contract into a span.”

So strength first made a way;
Then beauty flowed, then wisdom, honour, pleasure.
When almost all was out, God made a stay,
Perceiving that, alone of all his treasure,
Rest in the bottom lay.

“For if I should,” said he,
“Bestow this jewel also on my creature,
He would adore my gifts instead of me,
And rest in Nature, not the God of Nature;
So both should losers be.

“Yet let him keep the rest,
But keep them with repining restlessness;
Let him be rich and weary, that at least,
If goodness lead him not, yet weariness
May toss him to my breast.”

- A) Transcribe the first five lines of the poem by providing phonetic symbols. (5)
B) Give three term labels of any five predominating consonants in the poem. (5)
C) Give three term labels of any five predominating vowels in the poem. (5)

Q2. Attempt a stylistic analysis of the above text with special reference to the linguistic choice made by the poet. (15)

Q3. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below in 4 to five lines each:

My grandmother’s enveloping, placental presence was slowly withdrawing from the rest of the house and concentrating itself within the four walls of her room.

She had the best room in the house. It was very large and its walls were lined with tall shuttered windows. The few bits of furniture she had collected over the years seemed to be adrift in the worst spaces of that room, like leaves in a lake. I still occasionally took my homework to her. Usually, when I went into her room, I would find her sitting in an armchair beside an open window - a shrunken fragile little figure, gazing out across the lake. I would pull up a chair and sit beside her, scratching noisily in my exercise book to attract her attention.

One evening, when she seemed particularly distracted, I threw my exercise book down in frustration and cried: Tha'mma, why do you always stare out of the window like that? Don't you like this house?

She glanced at me in surprise and patted my shoulder. It's a nice house, she said, smiling. It's a nice house for a child, like you.

But then a frown appeared on her forehead and she bit her lip and said: But you know, it's very different from the house Maya and I grew up in.

How? I asked.

And so, over months of such evenings, she told me about the house she had grown up in - in Dhaka.

- a) Who is the narrator? Is the narrator distinct from the author? What linguistic factors helped you decide? (7)
- b) Comment on the setting of the text. (4)
- c) What insight does the narrator provide to us about the characters? Evaluate the narrator's attitude towards the characters. (4)

Q4. Read the following paragraphs from student writing and answer the questions given below: Eugene O'Neill's "The Emperor Jones" is a play that delves into Carl Jung's theory of collective unconscious which posits that humans share a common, inherited unconscious mind containing symbols. For instance, the play's protagonist, Brutus Jones, is a complex character who embodies the tensions and contradictions of the collective unconscious. Through Jones's journey, O'Neill reveals the ways in which our individual psyches are shaped by the collective experiences of our ancestors, our culture, and our social environment. Furthermore, the play's use of Expressionist techniques, such as distorted sets and abstract language, serves to underscore the idea that our individual experiences are part of a larger, collective reality.

Moreover, the play's examination of collective unconscious is particularly evident in its use of the jungle as a symbol of the primal, collective unconscious mind where Jones is forced to confront his racial past and the darker aspects of his personality. The jungle represents a space where the boundaries between individual and collective experiences are blurred, and where the primitive forces that shape human behavior are laid bare. The play's highlight where Jones is haunted by the ghosts of his past and the collective unconscious operates as a powerful illustration of the idea that our individual experiences are closely linked to the collective experiences of others. To sum up, through its nuanced lens of collective unconscious O'Neill's *The Emperor Jones* reveals how our individual experiences are affected by the collective forces of history, culture and social environment.

- i) Formulate a thesis statement for the above text. How easy or difficult it was to do so? Give reason for your answer. (5)
- ii) Note down the main ideas in the text. Are the ideas substantiated by the author? (5)
- iii) Is the text coherent? Give reasons for your answer. (5)