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(NEP—2020)

(4th Semester)

ENGLISH (MAJOR/MINOR)

(Writings From North-East India)

Full Marks : 75

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

(SECTION : A—OBJECTIVE)

(Marks : 10)

Tick (✓) the correct answer in the brackets provided :

1×10=10

1. What is the recurrent feature of the literatures of the seven North-Eastern States according to Tilottoma Misra?
 - (a) Intense sense of awareness of the cultural loss and recovery ()
 - (b) An intense hatred of mainland India and cultural hegemony ()
 - (c) An outpour of love for nature and one's own culture ()
 - (d) A dense of patriotism towards the motherland ()

2. The creation of a standardized print language in Assam was the result of a joint effort by the
 - (a) Assamese intellectuals and Christian Missionaries ()
 - (b) British colonizers and the Christian Missionaries ()
 - (c) insurgents and the colonizers ()
 - (d) local people and various tribes living within Assam ()

3. In the poem, *Oh Poor Hachukrai* the name Hachukrai is a reference to
 (a) a blind man () (b) a poor man ()
 (c) a villager () (d) a politician ()
4. A *Himalayan Ballad* can be seen as a poignant dialogue between
 (a) two friends ()
 (b) a mother and her son ()
 (c) a husband and wife ()
 (d) a brother and sister ()
5. Where does the speaker propose to meet Sundori to 'empty this madness' of communal violence in the poem by Kynpham Sing Nongkynrih?
 (a) Umian River ()
 (b) Umkhrah River ()
 (c) Dawki River ()
 (d) Umiew River ()
6. Robin S. Ngangom in his poem, *We Are Not Ready for the Hand of Peace* says, what his people desire is the
 (a) witness of still winds ()
 (b) witness of clean hands ()
 (c) witness of still waters ()
 (d) witness of clean air ()
7. Chhingpuii was a beautiful maiden who lived in the village of
 (a) Hmunpui () (b) Ruanzawl ()
 (c) Hmuizawl () (d) Tualbung ()
8. Parasu Pator took a loan of _____ from Rahamat Kabuliwala.
 (a) ₹ 8000 ()
 (b) ₹ 7000 ()
 (c) ₹ 5000 ()
 (d) ₹ 3000 ()

9. Who according to the Seer is granted the blessing of catching the sleeping river?

- (a) The brave-hearted ()
- (b) The pure-hearted ()
- (c) The patient hearted ()
- (d) The kind-hearted ()

10. Why was Senos body buried outside the village in *When the River Sleeps* ?

- (a) Because she was considered unclean ()
- (b) Because of the ominous circumstances of her death ()
- (c) Because it was the wish of her parents and family ()
- (d) Because it was her dying wish ()

(SECTION : B—SHORT ANSWERS)

(Marks : 15)

Answer *five* questions, taking at least *one* from each Unit :

3×5=15

UNIT—I

- 1. How did Tilottoma Misra explain the storytelling tradition of the North-East?
- 2. Why have many of the young writers in the North-East chosen to write in English?

UNIT—II

- 3. Why are the people of Manipur not ready for the hand of peace, according to Robin S. Ngangom?
- 4. Explain the line, "I am the woman lost in translation" from *The Voice of the Mountain*.

UNIT—III

- 5. Explain briefly the incident that led to the death of Chhingpuii.
- 6. Who is Chandrakar Mondal of Lakhimpur in *Parasu Pator's Well* by Indira Goswami?

UNIT—IV

7. Who is Vilie? What motivates his journey to find the sleeping river?
8. What is the legend surrounding the heart stone in *When the River Sleeps*?

(SECTION : C—DESCRIPTIVE)

(Marks : 50)

Answer *five* questions, taking at least *one* from each Unit :

10×5=50

UNIT—I

1. What are the major themes in contemporary North-East literature?
2. “The sense of being denied fair representation in the great Indian Civilizational discourse or even in the nationalist discourse has deeply affected the emerging literati of many of the regions of North-East India in the post-Independence era.” Explain.

UNIT—II

3. How do the poems from *Writings from North-East India* reflect the issue of violence in North-East India?
4. Identify and discuss the major theme of the poem, *Sundori* by Kynpham Sing Nongkynrih.

UNIT—III

5. Discuss the different aspects of Mizo culture and traditions as depicted in the story of *Chhingpuii*.
6. Compare and contrast the characters of Chandrakar Mondal and Rahamat Kabuliwala from the short story, *Parasu Pator's Well* by Indira Goswami.

UNIT—IV

7. What is the significance of the ‘sleeping river’ in *When the River Sleeps*? What does it represent as both a physical place and a state of being?
8. In what ways does Easterine Kire’s *When the River Sleeps* reflect indigenous and spiritual practices of the Naga people?
