

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 : $1 \times 10 = 10$

- (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*.

(2)

- (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 : $2 \times 5 = 10$

- (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*.

(3)

3. Answer any four of the following questions :

$5 \times 4 = 20$

- (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 :

$10 \times 4 = 40$

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

- (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*.
