

No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

00329

MASTER OF ARTS (English)

Term-End Examination

June, 2011

MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. All questions carry *equal* marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the content *any four* of the following passages : 4x5=20

(a) All of her flesh and bones
They had consigned to the flames
But how she continued living
No one can understand.

(b) A man with a broken heart came today
Accompanied by his lady love
Sprayed dreams and tears on the stone
And went away rowing upstream.

(c) Thirst is to plunge headlong
Without learning to swim
Without a barge and a pole
Into the roaring whirlpools.

- (d) My ears like twin boats
Carry the weight of
your words ? Remember ?
- (e) The eagles crying out in sharp shrill notes;
The eagles of the under - world burst into
the sky.
- (f) How can I write the alphabets of
constellations on the old paper ?

2. Discuss Praneshacharya's quest for identity in *Sanskara*. How do you view the ending of the novel ? (450 words) 20

OR

What part does religion play in *Tamas* ?

3. 'There are opposing extremes in the character of Sultan Mohammad Tughlaq'. Comment. 20

OR

Discuss the relevance of Azy- Aazam in *Tughlaq*.

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4. Discuss the following : 2x10=20

- (a) (i) Salt as a metaphor for exploitation in
salt (225 words)

OR

- (ii) The role of memory in *Birds*
(225 words)

- (b) (i) Role of madness in Headmaster,
Prawn, Chanachur (225 words)

OR

- (ii) '*The compromise*' as an allegory
(225 words)

5. What exactly was Premchand's vision of truth and beauty ? (450 words). 20

OR

In what way is *Manimahesh* a personal memoir rather than an objective traveller's guide to the land and its people ? (450 words)



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No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

MASTER OF ARTS (English)

Term-End Examination

December, 2011

MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. All questions carry *equal* marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the content *any four* of the following passages : 4x5=20
- (a) Her very name calls upon God to protect
but there she was moaning
as naturally as a sleeper snoring
No doctor came....
- (b) That weak old woman looking at us
Across the wide of water
Yes she was the ancient goddess of the
village.
- (c) What were the words on my lips when I
died.
You seem to know them better than I
You wrote : I had said 'Help'.
May be I had said 'Liberty'.
now that I am dead I cannot remember.

- (d) I whispered
Hope to my hungry belly, and gazed and
gazed
With hungry looks at the moon-flooded sky.
- (e) Why do your people
get away when they meet your people
as if they are not your people ?
Do you prefer whites to blacks ?
- (f) We need everything. We shall build houses
and home
shall raise a lasting pillar of civilization.
When the silvery fish is gone scattering
stones in water
Just once try to love.

2. Do you think *Samskara* is a complete repudiation of Brahminism ? Discuss (450 words) 20

OR

'After Nathu, Bakshiji is the most socially sensitive character in *Tamas*'. Do you agree ? Discuss.

3. How has Girish Karnad treated the theme of power ? (450 words) 20

OR

In what way is *Tughlaq* a well-structured play ?

4. (a) Discuss the following : 20

- (i) The narrative technique in 'salt' (225 words)

OR

- (ii) Comment on the ending of the story 'Tiny's Granny' (225 words)

- (b) (i) The role of the police in 'Headmaster, Prawn, Chanachur' (225 words)

OR

- (ii) The Theme of familial love in 'Very Lonely, She'. (225 words)

5. Discuss Premchand's effort to bridge the Urdu-Hindi divide. (450 words) 20

OR

Discuss the salient features of the writer's style in 'Manimahesh'.

No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

01011

MASTER OF ARTS (English)

Term-End Examination

June, 2012

MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context *any four* of the following passages : 4x5=20

- (a) The body is the residue of struggle
incorporating in itself one battered
eating bowl,
One soiled hair comb and the breakage
within

The only element to escape is a cry
Which in essence, is an undetermined
internal matter
still under study.

- (b) I whispered
Hope to my hungry belly, and
gazed and gazed
With hungry looks at the
moon - flooded sky

- (c) Our children are about to enter
These lonely kitchens,
Come, for their sake,
Let's demolish
These kitchens now.
- (d) The morning today
Tells me it shall take away
all consciousness
From this life
And all the other lives I have yet
to live.
It says all this in a strange language
In words different from all the
words I've known.
- (e) The eagles crying out in sharp, shrill notes,
The eagles, confused, are looking
for their lost beloved.
- (f) In the early hours of daytime
Up and down the village
They are all having nightmares
The old woman looks on wet - eyed.

2. (a) The narrative in Samskara charts the evolution of Praneshacharya, culminating in his decision to go back to his people and confess. Discuss (450 words) 20

OR

- (b) The subject of partition in Tamas concentrates on the destruction that is caused by communal violence. Discuss (450 words).

3. (a) Discuss the significance of the prayer motif in Tughlak. (450 words) **20**

OR

- (b) Discuss the contemporary relevance of Tughlak. Discuss (450 words)

4. Discuss the following : **2x10 = 20**

- (a) (i) Element of optimism in 'Birthday'.

OR

- (ii) The Arupda - Pramita relationship in 'Head master, prawn, chanachur'. (200 words).

- (b) (i) The character of Latika in 'Birds'. (200 words)

OR

- (ii) The theme of loneliness in 'very lonely, she'. (200 words)

5. (a) Discuss how Premchand tried to work out a balance between Hindi and Urdu. **20**
(450 words)

OR

- (b) How does Uma Prasad Mukhopadhyay elicit the reader's interest in 'Manimahesh', not only as an inaccessible destination that involves adventure, but a site that has a factual and legendary past ? (450 words).

No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN ENGLISH

Term-End Examination

December, 2012

MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context *any four* of the following passages : 4x5=20
- (a) Yesterday or the day before - I met Whitman : I met Whitman talking aloud in solitude about the populace.
 - (b) Fruits make me bow And then I crave to be sweet And linger on a palate
 - (c) The moon looked like a pancake and The hills looked hungry; and the clouds put out The fire in western skies.
 - (d) And finally, only two titanic tarantulas One black, the other with a crimson chest, Crept with slow hairy step, like skulkers of the night, and hauled her off to their invisible lair.
 - (e) I have handed over, my notebook of poems Long back to Kabir.
There is no Kabir in this market.

- (f) The Dark of the wall
Lounge for that moment of courage,
When, in full sight of all,
My hands
Will stretch out
For a drink.

2. (a) *Samskara* is at the interface of tradition and modernity, and explores a traditional society's potential to question itself and move ahead, incorporating necessary changes. Discuss. (450 words) **20**

OR

- (b) Explain the title of the novel '*Tamas*'. (450 words)
3. (a) Discuss the metaphor of chess in '*Tughlak*'. (450 words) **20**

OR

- (b) Trace the relationship between the Sultan and Barani in *Tughlak*. (450 words)

4. Discuss the following : **2x10=20**

- (a) (i) The plight of a poor woman in '*Tinny's Granny*'. (200 words)

OR

- (ii) The first person narration in '*The Compromise*'. (200 words)

- (b) (i) Issues of ecology and environment Vs the human problems of survival and sustenance in 'Salt'. (200 words)

OR

- (ii) The title of the story 'The Empty chest' (200 words)

5. (a) Comment on Bama's reflections on caste and gender politics in India. (450 words) **20**

OR

- (b) Despite being a very brief sketch of a single person, 'On Ismat' is a significant commentary on the society in which chughtai lives. Discuss. (450 words)



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No. of Printed Pages : 4

MEG-14

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

June, 2013

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN
LITERATURE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context *any four* of the following passages in **150** words each : **4x5=20**
- (a) A man with a broken heart came today
Accompanied by his lady love
Sprayed dreams and tears on the stone
And went away rowing upstream.
They will build their home in the deep forest.
- (b) And now with my spring bloom
I wish to go somewhere else
"It has been too long a stay here
Now is the time to move on."
- (c) The dark of the well
Longs for that moment of courage
When in full sight of all
My hands will stretch out
For a drink.

(d) May be the darkness of
the last night
fought a bloody battle in
the ultimate moments
of its empire of silence
or meaningless words.

The small residues of its existence
are already crumbling.

(e) The blind eagles, quite
incapable of looking behind;
Grieving eagles who never
ever had any loved one;
The eagles who never ever
had any loved one;

The eagles crying out in
sharp shrill notes;

The eagles of the under-
world burst into the sky.

(f) You do not open the door
Though I have arrived at
the destination
How can I write the
alphabets of constellations.
on the old paper ?

2. Are you satisfied with the way the ending of *Samskara* ? Illustrate your answer with concrete arguments (500 words) 20

OR

'The novel *Tamas* is a severe criticism of British imperialism in India. Discuss (500 words)

3. "People did not understand Sultan Muhammad as his ideas were in advance of his times." Do you agree with the statement ? (500 words) 20

OR

What use does Karnard make of the motif of chess in *Tughlaq* ? (500 words)

4. (a) Answer the following : 10+10=20
(i) Memory plays an important role in *Birds*. Bring out its full significance. (225 words)

OR

- (ii) *Birthday* is typical of the stark realism the early Basheer practiced. Substantiate. (225 words)

- (b) Describe the characterization of the protagonist in Indira Goswami's *The Empty Chest*. (225 words)

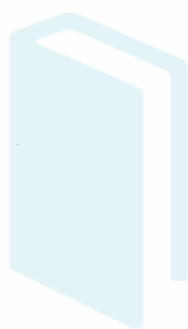
OR

"The compromise is a comment on the absence of moral restraints in modern life." Elaborate. (225 words)

5. Write a short note on Bama's views about the life, of Dalits. Does she consider their lives to have become better or worse ? Why ? (500 words) 20

OR

Discuss how Manto compares his own temperament and artistic disposition with those of Ismat Chughtai. (500 words)



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No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN ENGLISH

Term-End Examination

December, 2013

MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. All questions carry *equal* marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the content *any four* of the following passages : 4x5=20

(a) The moans that floated into the still autumn nights were borne by the cold onto the season of winds carols.

(b) What were the words on my lips when I died.
You seem to know them better than I.

You wrote : I had said 'Help'

May be I had said 'Liberty'
now that I am dead I cannot remember.

(c) The moon looked like a
pancake as she rose
Behind the hills. She looked dull
as a robe.

of pampore tweed worn off
thread bare and torn
at the collar-band out of
which peep the scars
on a marble breast, and pale
as a counterfeit
silver coin which robs a
coolie of her mite.

- (d) Inhuman, it sucks our blood,
 robs us
 of hopes and dreams.
 a demon, a vulture
 eating into us bit by bit
 all our lives.
 Kitchen culture, Kitchen talk,
 Reduced to kitchen maids and cooks.
- (e) Grasses, rivers, hills, clouds,
 woods, clouds
 woods, hills, rivers, grasses,
 hills, clouds and rivers,
 woods, bridges, rails, airports
 and cars,
 factories and telephones-----
 come, let's walk up to the
 pacific coast.
- (f) This chill touch of water
 snaps the rope of desire.
 Don't blow the water.
 The face of my autobiography
 will be lost.

-
2. What is the importance of the sexual union between the Acharya and Chandri ? (500 words) **20**

OR

'It seems kites and vultures will hover over the town, for a along time.' Do you think this sentence conveys the overall mood of the novel, *Tamas* ?
(500 words)

3. Write a note on the contemporary relevance of *Tughlaq*. **20**
(500 words)

OR

Comment on Karnad's stagecraft in *Tughlaq*.
(500 words)

4. (a) Discuss the following : 10+10=20
Salt combines stringent political comment
with sophisticated literary technique.
(225 words)

OR

Comment on the merits of Ismat Chughta;
as a short story writer with special reference
to *Tiny's Granny*. (225 words)

- (b) Compare and contrast the two characters
of Pooram Mansi and Manohar in the story
very lonely. (225 words)

OR

The compromise is an allegory. Discuss.
(225 words)

5. Amrit Rai has presented Premchand as a 20
'commoner extraordinary.' Discuss. (500 words)

OR

Can the piece *On Ismat be regarded as a social*
document recording the values and conventions
of the contemporary society ? (500 words)

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4348

No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

**CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
TRANSLATION**

Term-End Examination

June, 2014

**MEG - 14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context *any four* of 4x5=20
the following passages:

(a) A funeral feast was hosted.
Church elders were invited.

The cortege assembled.

Prayers were offered.

(b) And now with my spring bloom
I wish to go somewhere else
"It has been too long a stay here
Now is the time to move on"

- (c) The dark of the well
Longs for that moment of courage
When in full sight of all
My hands will stretch out
For a drink.
- (d) The earth here speaks of the same things to us
Those who have ears do not listen.
- (e) This tradition does accept
The promise of liberation,
The wings of desire are just growing
In the empire of darkness!

2. (a) Discuss the contemporary relevance of *Samskara*. (450 words). 20

OR

(b) In *Tamas* the author enables us to hear some of those voices which we would otherwise never have heard. Comment. (450 words). 20

3. (a) Discuss the following: 2x20 = 20

(i) *Salt* as a scathing critique of social irresponsibility. (200 words).

OR

(ii) Character of Granny in *Tiny's Granny*. (200 words).

(b) Discuss the following:

(i) The role of memory in *Birds*. (200 words).

OR

(ii) Folk element in *The Compromise*. (200 words).

4. What according to you are the important themes and motifs in *Tughlaq*? (450 words). 20

OR

Comment on the growth of contemporary Indian theatre. (450 words)

5. Comment on the distinctive features of Amit Rai's biography of *Premchand*. (450 words). 20

OR

In what way is *Manimahesh* a personal memoir rather than an objective travellers' guide to the land and its people? (450 words).

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No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME
IN ENGLISH**

04035

Term-End Examination

December, 2014

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE
IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. *All* questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context any *four* of the following passages : 4×5=20

- (a) At night like a thief

I bathe in it.

I cup my hands and drink,

But love is not quenched

Nor thirst.

- (b) My mother is empress of this kitchen empire,

But the name on pots and pans is my father's.

- (c) The river, and the forest across the river
no longer look the same.
How long can my sickly firmament
remain immutable ?
- (d) It's good to have some stones in
your heart — the cry is then echoed back.
- (e) The shaky image in the mirror of
water is my own.
The pure, white mass of foam on the
top of the waves
Touchingly pass through space and time.
- (f) Such a young girl
such a sweet girl
such promise ...

-
2. Discuss the title of the novel *Samskara* and its
relevance to the plot. (450 words)

20

OR

- Write a detailed note on the subalterns in the
novel *Tamas*. (450 words)

20

3. Can you say that *Tughlaq* is a well-structured
play ? Give a reasoned answer. (450 words)

20

4. Discuss any **two** of the following : (250 words each) 2×10=20

- (a) *Birthday* as a typical example of stark realism.
- (b) Context and setting in Nirmal Verma's *Birds*.
- (c) Use of symbols in *The Empty Chest*.
- (d) Arupda's insanity in *Headmaster, Prawn, Chanachur*.

5. What aspects of Dalit life are highlighted by Bama in *Karukku* ? (450 words) 20

OR

Write your impression of Ismat Chughtai after reading the pen-sketch *On Ismat*. (450 words) 20

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No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

June, 2015

05550

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context any *four* of the following passages : (150 words each) $4 \times 5 = 20$

(a) such a young girl

such a sweet girl

such promise —

But the eschatologists offered some comfort

They were happy she went so peacefully.

(b) The pages of scriptures fluttering in the air

Would perch on my leaves

The songs of the sparrows

Weaving into my tresses

Became my way of life.

(c) At night like a thief

I bathe in it.

I cup my hands and drink

But love is not quenched

Nor thirst.

(d) My ears like twin boats

carry the weight of

your words ?

Remember ?

You were a small boy

and I breastfed you

even in your sleep.

(e) Why do your people

get away when they meet your people

as if they are not your people ?

Do you prefer whites to blacks ?

(f) You do not open the door

Though I have arrived at the destination.

How can I write the alphabet of constellations

On the old paper ?

2. Discuss the role of Chandri and Putta in the Acharya's efforts to redefine himself as an individual in *Samskara*. (450 words) 20

OR

How does the writer discuss the theme of communalism in *Tamas* ? What are your personal views on the subject ? (450 words)

3. What are the causes for the failure of Sultan Muhammad ? (450 words) 20

OR

Discuss the contemporary relevance of the play *Tughlaq*. (450 words)

4. Discuss the following in 250 words each : $2 \times 10 = 20$

- (a) The use of Salt as a metaphor in Mahasweta Devi's story of the same name.

OR

Bashir's stark realism in the story *Birthday*.

- (b) The ending of the story *The Empty Chest*.

OR

Humour in the story *Headmaster, Prawn, Chanachur*.

5. Comment on Bama's stylistic techniques from *Karukku* chapters 4 & 8. (450 words) 20

OR

What qualities of Ismat Chughtai's writings appeal to Manto the most ? How do you like Manto's presentation on Ismat ? (450 words)

No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

December, 2015

02631

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context any *four* of the following passages in about 150 words each :

4×5=20

(a) Then

They had pressed her down

Piling up log after log on her

A hundred tongues of all consuming flames

Have sprung into life

Villagers watch in a circle

(b) No, I would continue to stare

at the one hundred bald pates in silence.

The fixed stare of my dead machine-gun.

- (c) The moon looked like a pancake and
The hills looked hungry; and the clouds put out
The fires in western skies. But in the east
The wood nymphs lit the moon's cooking stove
- (d) My life – flow
rolling down my eye —
“She may not go now
Shh ! She will hear ! Be silent !”
- (e) Do you have in your land still
those sages, who,
eating only their silences,
counsel their rulers ?
- (f) It's good to have some stones in your heart
— the cry is then echoed back.
Since all roads are slippery the stones may
be spread on them one after another.

2. Which character(s) do you like the most in
Samskara ? Why ? (450 words)

20

OR

In what specific ways does the title of Bhisham
Sahni's novel *Tamas* express the writer's
thematic concern ? (450 words)

3. "Muhammad Tughlaq was a synthesis of opposing extremes in his character." Do you agree? Discuss with concrete examples from the text. (450 words) 20

OR

Discuss the motifs of chess and disguise in *Tughlaq*. (450 words)

4. Discuss the following in 250 words each : $2 \times 10 = 20$

(a) Point of view in the story '*Tadpa*'

OR

The part that memory plays in Nirmal Verma's *Birds*

(b) Title of the story '*The Empty Chest*'

OR

'The Compromise' as an allegory

5. What qualities of Ismat Chughtai appeal to Manto the most? (450 words) 20

OR

In what way is *Manimahesh* a personal memoir rather than an objective traveller's guide to the land and its people? (450 words)

No. of Printed Pages : 4

MEG-14

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

03665

June, 2016

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context any *four* of the following passages in about 150 words each :

4×5=20

(a) Sermons were shouted.

Gossips were floated.

Palms were read.

Tea and biscuits were distributed.

Then, her sudden demise was sadly lamented :

(b) What makes one hundred fat heads hang --

The load of wisdom ?

The weight of reverence ?

The burden of shame ?

(c) But in the east
The wood nymphs lit the moon's cooking stove
In whose soft glow shoots of the steaming rice
Seemed to spring upon the hills.

(d) Our children are about to enter
these lonely kitchens.

Come, for their sake,

let's demolish

these kitchens now !

(e) Such tumult in the heart
is altogether new.

I do not know if

on a bend of my life

or of the path to the river

a discomfiture lies in ambush,

(f) I have handed over, my notebook of poems
long back to Kabir.

There is no Kabir in this market.

Only I stand here.

2. The protagonist of *Samskara* is caught between tradition and modernity. Discuss. (450 words) 20

OR

Tamas captures the historical consequences of the partition in human terms. Discuss.
(450 words)

3. Discuss how *Tughlak* dramatizes the protagonist's love of power and its subsequent collapse. (450 words) 20

OR

Tughlak is "a split personality representing the deep-rooted dualities of human nature". Discuss.
(450 words)

4. Discuss the following : (450 words) $2 \times 10 = 20$

- (a) (i) The depiction of poverty and hunger in *Birthday*. (225 words)

OR

- (ii) Granny as a tragic character in *Tiny's Granny*. (225 words)

- (b) (i) Toradoi's relationship with the empty chest. (225 words)

OR

- (ii) Manohar's interaction with his aunt and what it teaches him. (225 words)

5. Is the title of Amrit Rai's biography of Premchand, *Kalam ka Sipahi (The Soldier of the Pen)* appropriate ? Discuss. (450 words) 20

OR

How does *Manimahesh* combine history and legend, reality and myth ? (450 words)



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No. of Printed Pages : 4

MEG-14

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

05274 Term-End Examination

December, 2016

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context any *four* of the following passages in about 150 words each :

4×5=20

- (a) Useless old woman this is

Very wicked old woman this is

The village was laid waste by her

Hunting ghosts she had sent

- (b) I regret no season

Because over and over again

Have I resurged

Never did I know

When the fall hit me

And when I regained the green

Anew, afresh.

- (c) The dark of the well

Longs for that moment of courage

When in full sight of all

My hands will stretch out

For a drink.

- (d) Hey, Whitman !

I call out.

My friend — the voice had drawn near —

look, he said,

Columbus' geographical error,

history's gain.

- (e) It's good to have some stones in your heart

there is no letter box — messages can

be left between stones

besides, one sometimes feels like

making a home.

- (f) The blind eagles, quite incapable of
looking behind;

Grieving eagles who never ever had
any loved one;

The eagles who never ever had any
loved one;

2. The novel *Samskara* charts Pranesacharya's quest for and questioning of his own identity. Discuss. (450 words) 20

OR

To what extent is the novel *Tamas* autobiographical? Discuss. (450 words)

3. Do you agree that the downfall of Tughlak was the result of his being a visionary and an idealist? Discuss. (450 words) 20

OR

Discuss the repeated use of the idea of acting, performance and theatricality in the play *Tughlak*. (450 words)

4. Discuss the following : $2 \times 10 = 20$
(a) Tadpa's portrayal as a tribal. (225 words)

OR

The significance of the title '*Birds*'. (225 words)

- (b) Insanity as portrayed by the first person narrator of '*Headmaster, Prawn, Chanachur*'. (225 words)

OR

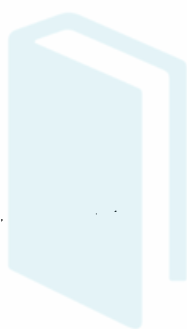
The function of the mirror and the significance of its destruction in '*The Compromise*'. (225 words)

5. Bama's '*Karukku*' is an important social document on caste and gender apart from being a memoir. Discuss. (450 words)

20

OR

What aspects of Ismat Chughtai's writings and creativity appeal to Manto ? Discuss. (450 words)



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No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

June, 2017

01939

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context any *four* of the following passages : 4×5=20

(a) I have handed over, my notebook of poems
long back to Kabir.

There is no Kabir in this market.

Only I stand here.

(b) The pages of scriptures fluttering in the air

Would perch on my leaves

The songs of the sparrows

Weaving into my tresses

Became my way of life.

- (c) Our kitchen now is a graveyard
with corpses of all kinds
tins, dishes, sacks.
It hangs there in the smoke,
clouds from damp firewood.
- (d) Sermons were shouted.
Gossips were floated.
Palms were read.
Tea and biscuits were distributed.
Then, her sudden demise was sadly lamented :
- (e) Like the dot
in a question-mark
I am slipping down memory lane
And you give me
a brain-teaser !
- (f) A man with a broken heart came today
Accompanied by his lady love
Sprayed dreams and tears on the stone
And went away rowing upstream.
They will build their home in the deep forest.

2. Discuss the importance of Putta's role as a focalizer in *Samskara*. (500 words) 20

OR

In what sense can Nathu be called the conscience of the novel *Tamas* ? (500 words)

3. Discuss *Tughlaq* as a political allegory.
(500 words) 20

OR

Tughlaq is a case study of split personality.
Discuss. (500 words)

4. Attempt **one** question each from sections 4 (a)
and 4 (b): 10+10=20

- (a) Write a note on the major themes in
Mahasweta Devi's story *Salt*. (225 words)

OR

Comment on the title of Nirmal Verma's
Birds. (225 words)

- (b) Comment on the style in Indira Goswami's
The Empty Chest. (225 words)

OR

What are the reasons that provoke the
narrator to take recourse to seemingly mad
behaviour in the *Headmaster*, *Prawn*,
Chanachur ? (225 words)

5. What is Premchand's vision of social change ?
What is the role of literature and language in
social change ? (500 words) 20

OR

What are the nuances that make *Manimahesh* an
interesting piece of travel writing ? (500 words)

No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

00821

December, 2017

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

*Note : Answer **all** questions. All questions carry equal marks.*

1. Discuss with reference to the context any **four** of the following passages :

4×5=20

- (a) Thirst is to plunge headlong

Without learning to swim

Without a barge and a pole

Into the roaring whirlpools.

- (b) The dark of the well

Longs for that moment of courage

When in full sight of all

My hands will stretch out

For a drink

- (c) Death does not come to all of us in
the same manner
nor do the dead become equal in death
for they were not so before.
The body is the residue of struggle ...
- (d) It's good to have some stones in your heart
There is no letter-box — messages can
be left between stones —
besides, one sometimes feels like making
a home.
- (e) I then collected
all half-formed desires,
joined them together,
rushed towards you like a gale
and entwined my fingers
in your fingers.
- (f) Atom or Atman —
Which of these do your scientists
strive after ?

2. Discuss the role of Chandri in the novel
Samskara. (500 words)

20

OR

Discuss Sahni's treatment of the theme of
communalism in *Tamas*. (500 words)

3. Discuss the theme of power in the play *Tughlaq*. (500 words) 20

OR

Write a note on the contemporary relevance of *Tughlaq*. (500 words)

4. Attempt **one** question each from 4(a) and 4(b) :
10+10=20

- (a) Discuss the character of Pooran Mausi in Motilal Jotwani's *'Very Lonely, She'*.
(225 words)

OR

In what way is the story *'The Compromise'* relevant to our times ? (225 words)

- (b) Write a note on humour, irony and contrast in the *'Birthday'*. (225 words)

OR

Can *'Tiny's Granny'* be read as a social document ? Comment. (225 words)

5. Explain critically *Bama's* views about the life of Dalit Christians. (500 words) 20

OR

Critically underline the salient features of Manto's pen-sketch of *Ismat Chughtai*.

(500 words)

No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

June, 2018

01755

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context, any **four**
of the following passages : **4×5=20**

(a) My friend – the voice had drawn near –
look, he said,
Columbus' geographical error, history's gain.

(b) Who could be a Rishi greater than the tree
A stoic meditating in sun and frost
Undaunted and unshaken
In rain or draught

(c) My mother is empress of this kitchen empire,
But the name on pots and pans is my father's.

- (d) The day people said
I was an unfaithful wife I became
Radha, the first and the best
among women in love.
- (e) One day the king arrived, lights played,
He stood, with his foot
Pressing the forehead of the stone
And looking – to which way
His prey was on the run
- (f) I have no wish to live
any longer, dear son !
with hollow words of
empty concern
with loveless strokes

2. Discuss the ways in which *Samskara* offers a critique of Brahminical Hinduism.

20

OR

Which scene in the novel *Tamas* has left an indelible impression on your mind ? Bring out its significance.

3. Discuss the various symbols and motifs used in *Tughlaq*. (450 words)

20

OR

Discuss how the play *Tughlaq* brings out the conflicting strands in the character of the protagonist.

4. Discuss any **two** of the following : 2×10=20

- (a) Narrative technique of *Very Lonely, She*
- (b) Trope of madness in *Headmaster, Prawn, Chanachur*
- (c) Significance of the title of the story *The Compromise*
- (d) Metaphor of salt in *Salt*

5. Comment on the oppression and discrimination as reflected in Bama's *Karukku*. 20

OR

Discuss how Manto compares his own temperament, artistic disposition and writings with those of Ismat Chughtai.

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No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

04251

December, 2018

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

***Note :** Answer **all** questions. All questions carry equal marks.*

1. Discuss with reference to the context, any *four* of the following passages : **4×5=20**

- (a) Do you have in your land still
those sages, who
eating only their silences,
counsel their rulers ?
- (b) I do not know if a love
annulling all other loves
will suddenly arrive
and command my destiny of old age,
disease and death
- (c) The blind eagles, quite incapable of
looking behind;
Grieving eagles who never ever had any
loved one;

- (d) I have handed over, my notebook of poems
long back to Kabir.
There is no Kabir in this market.
Only I stand here.
- (e) It's good to have some stones in your heart
there is no letter box – messages can be
left between stones –
besides, one sometimes feels like making
a home.
- (f) Turning their backs to the sun, they
journeyed through centuries
Now, now, we must refuse to be pilgrims of
darkness, ...

2. Discuss how *Samskara* charts India's transition
from tradition to modernity. 20

OR

Discuss the issue of communal conflict in *Tamas*
with reference to incidents of communal tension
in India's history after the Partition.

3. Would you consider Karnad's representation of
Tughlaq to be that of a secular king ? What are
the chinks in the King's secular policy ? 20

OR

Discuss the complexity of the relationship
between Tughlaq and his stepmother.

4. Discuss any *two* of the following : 2×10=20

- (a) Significance of the title in *The Empty Chest*
- (b) The character sketch of Granny in *Tiny's Granny*
- (c) The importance of Hubert and Mukherjee in *Birds*
- (d) Idealism and optimism in *Birthday*

5. Describe the admirable qualities in Premchand's fictional characters as highlighted by Amrit Rai. 20

OR

Outline some of the historical legends and myths about the valley surrounding Manimahesh.

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No of Printed Pages : 4

MEG-14

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN ENGLISH

Term-End Examination, 2019

MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Time : 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks: 100

Note : Answer **all** questions. **All** questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context **any four** of the following passages : [4×5=20]

- (a) Stones and stones and the waters of the river
and the sea

blue stones turn red, red stones blue
just once try to love.

- (b) Layers of rock slide on each-other, lava liquid
flows cascading down,

Cave roofs are pushed and splintered, mistakes
and fine follies howl,

Every eye begets its many dreams,

And no King's ordinance is here honoured.

(c) Now I feel

my life,

even if eased like the

cotton that touches the naval blood

of an infant,

under the weight of my ears,

will break down.

(d) In the deep dark of the well

There are wistful shadows waiting

For the maidens who hung

A rope on its nail

But never came back to draw water.

(e) Lifeless fields stretch scorched and dry

Like death in silence

The thick smoke of cowdung-cakes envelope

Down the hollow souled village.

(f) My kitchen wakes

to the whirr and hisses of the grinder,

the hiss of the pressure cooker.

I move like my modern kitchen;

a wind up toy.

My kitchen is like a workshop,

It's like butcher's shop with its babble.

2. Compare and contrast the character of Pranesacharya with that of Naranappa in the novel *Samskara*.
(500 words.) [20]

OR

Discuss two scenes of your choice from the novel *Tamas*. Why are these scenes important in the structural framework of the novel ? (500 words)

3. Discuss *Tughlaq* as an allegory of politics. (500 words.) [20]

OR

Discuss critically the role of Zia-ud-din Barani in the play *Tughlaq*. (500 words.) [20]

OR

4. Attempt one question each from sections 4(a) and 4(b): [10+10=20]

- (a) Discuss critically the role of Ekoya in the story "Salt" by Mahasweta Devi. (225 words)

OR

Discuss the use of images of light and sound in the story "Birds" by Nirmal Verma. (225 words)

- (b) Why does the protagonist of the story "Headmaster, Prawn, Chanachur" pretend madness? Discuss critically. (225 words)

OR

The story "Very Lonely, She" by Motilal Jotwani is bifocal in its effect. Discuss. (225 words)

5. How does Umaprasad Mukhopadhyaya blend myth with history in his travel account of Manimahesh? (500 words)

[20]

OR

Though Manto's "On Ismat" is a pen-sketch of an individual, yet it is fundamentally a social document. Discuss. (500 words)

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6443

No. of Printed Pages : 4

MEG-14

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN ENGLISH

Term-End Examination, 2019

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context **any four** of the following passages : [4×5=20]

(a) What impudence in the sunlight!

The wind's thoughts are wandering

as though it has seen the long-banished lover;

living in disguise

in the neighbourhood.

(b) Turning their backs to the sun, they

journeyed through centuries

Now, now, we must refuse to be pilgrims of
darkness.



(c) And finally, only two titanic tarantulas,
one black, the other with a crimson chest,
crept with slow hairy steps, like skulkers
of the night, and hauled her off
to their invisible lair.

(d) And now with my spring bloom
I wish to go somewhere else
"It has been too long a stay here
Now is the time to move on."

(e) Death does not come to all of us in the same
manner

nor do the dead become equal in death
for they were not so before

(f) Do you have in your land still
those sages, who,
eating only their silences,
counsel their rulers ?

2. What is the importance of the sexual encounter of Acharya with Chandri in the novel *Samskara* ? (500 words)

[20]

OR

Discuss the narrative structure of Bhisham Sahni's *Tamas*. (500 words) [20]

3. *Tughlaq* offers a critique of Nehruvian politics of secularism and socialism. Illustrate. (500 words) [20]

OR

Discuss critically the role of Aziz in the play *Tughlaq*. (500 words) [20]

4. Attempt one question each from sections 4 (a) and 4 (b): [10+10=20]

- (a) Gopinath Mohanty's story "Tadpa" offers a strong critique of the civilizing mission. (225 words)

OR

What is the role of 'memory' in the story "Birds" by Nirmal Verma ? (225 words)

- (b) How does Detha exploit the elements of folk storytelling in his story "The Compromise" ? Explain. (225 words)

OR

Discuss the symbolic significance of the title in the story "The Empty Chest" by Indira Goswamy. (225 words)

5. Discuss the salient features of Bama's *Karukku* as an example of alternative form of autobiographical writing. (500 words) [20]

OR

Discuss the features of the art of pen-sketches with special reference to Manto's *On Ismat*. (500 words) [20]

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No. of Printed Pages : 4

MEG-14

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME
IN ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN
LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 Hours]

[Maximum : Marks : 100

Note: Answer all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context any four of the following passages: 4×5=20

(a) The blind eagles, quite incapable of looking behind;

Grieving eagles who never ever had any loved one;

The eagles who never ever had any loved one;

Eagles crying out in sharp shrill notes;

The eagles of the under-world burst into the sky



- (b) Lifeless fields stretch scorched and dry

Like death in silence.

- (c) What impudence in the sunlight!

The wind's thoughts are wandering,
as though it has seen the long-banished lover
living in disguise
in the neighbourhood.

- (d) Death does not come to all of us in the same
manner

nor do the dead become equal in death
for they were not so before.

- (e) Atom or Atman

Which of these do your scientists
Strive after?

- (f) The dark of the wall

Longs for that moment of courage
When, in full sight of all,
My hands
Will stretch out
For a drink

2. *Samskara* is a modern novel of existential dilemma. Discuss. 20

OR

Tamas is not merely a graphic description of violence and drama. Discuss with examples.

3. Comment on the elements of modernity in the character of Tughlaq. 20

OR

Compare the roles of Aziz and Aazam in the play *Tughlaq*.

4. Write short notes on any two of the following:

2×10=20

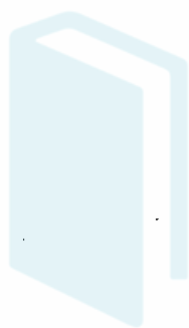
- (a) The depiction of jungle in "Tadpa"
(b) Significance of the title "Tiny's Granny".
(c) The art of story-telling in "The Compromise"
(d) The symbolic meaning of the title in "The Empty Chest"?

5. *Manimahesh* is more a personal memoir than an objective travellers' guide to the land and its people. Do you agree? Give a reasoned answer.

20

OR

Do you think Manto's pen-portrait of Ismat lacks objectivity? Illustrate.



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No. of Printed Pages : 3

MEG-14

MASTER OF ARTS (ENGLISH)
(MEG)

Term-End Examination

December, 2020

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE
IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : *Answer all questions. All questions carry equal marks.*

1. Discuss with reference to the context any **four** of the following passages : 4×5=20

(a) And finally, only two titanic tarantulas,
one black, the other with a crimson chest
crept with slow, hairy step, like skulkers
of the night, and hauled her off
to their invisible lair.

(b) Thirst is to plunge headlong
Without learning to swim
Without a barge and pole
Into the roaring whirlpools.

(c) Like the dot
in a question-mark.
I am slipping down memory lane
And you give me
a brain-teaser !

(d) My mother is impress of this
kitchen empire,
But the name on pots and
pans is my father's.

(e) She looked dull as a robe
Not of pampore tweed worn off
threadbare and torn
at the collar-band out of which
peep the scars

On a marble breast.

(f) Mistakes and fine follies howl,
Every eye begets its many dreams,
And no king's ordinance is here honoured.

2. How does *Samskara* depict the caste divisions
in Indian society ? 20

Or

How does *Tamas* deal with the reality of
Partition ?

[3]

3. *Tughlaq* is a play of existential struggle for survival. Discuss. 20

Or

How do you think the stage directions in the play *Tughlaq* contribute to its impact ?

4. Write short notes on any *two* of the following :

2×10=20

- (a) Examine the theme of family bonds in “Very Lonely, She”.
- (b) How does the story “Headmaster, Prawn, Chanachur” combine elements of different genres ?
- (c) In “Birthday”, Basheer draws upon the form of the diary. Comment.
- (d) Discuss the significance of the title “Birds”.

5. How does Amrit Rai employ anecdotes to enrich the biography of Prem Chand ? 20

Or

On the basis of your reading of Bama’s *Karukku*, critically examine the distinctness of Dalit autobiography.