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Name.....

Reg. No.....

**SECOND SEMESTER B.Com./B.B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2020**

(CBCSS—UG)

English

ENG 2A 04—ZEITGEIST : READINGS ON CONTEMPORARY CULTURE

(2019 Admissions)

Time : Two Hours and a Half

Maximum : 80 Marks

I. Answer the following questions in two or three sentences : (2 marks each)

- 1 Why did the people believe in Gandhi ?
- 2 Why is the Preamble called the 'identity card of the Constitution' ?
- 3 Explain : 'In the middle, on a stretch of land that had no name, lay Toba Tek Singh.'
- 4 What are the different attitudes of the Whites and the Native Americans to the country of their birth ?
- 5 What is the tone of Gieve Patel's poem "On Killing a Tree" ?
- 6 Why was it a bad year for Reuven the furrier ?
- 7 Mention one of the devastating weaknesses of the university learning, according to Rich.
- 8 What was Mrs. Mallard's immediate reaction, when she heard the news of her husband's death ?
- 9 "I treat it like a house." What ?
- 10 How does Auden compare the old yew tree and the old passports ?
- 11 What was the content of the 'such a good letter' sent by the protagonist from the prison ?
- 12 What made Girmallya's farm quiver in the narrator's stomach ?
- 13 Why does a person who has just won a lottery jump with joy ?
- 14 Who was Bruce Jenner ?
- 15 Explain: "If we let them in, they will steal our daily bread".

(Ceiling 25)

Turn over

II. Answer the following questions in a paragraph of 100 words. (5 marks each) :

- 16 How can India fulfill the promise of her greatness ?
- 17 Comment on the ending of "Toba Tek Singh".
- 18 Comment on the passion and feelings conveyed in Seattle's speech.
- 19 The change of weather in Singer's "Zlateh the Goat".
- 20 The gendered bias in education, according to Adrienne Rich.
- 21 The pessimism in "What It's like to Be Transgender".
- 22 Explain the dream with which "Refugee Blues" is concluded.
- 23 Comment on the treatment of racism in "Amnesty".

(Ceiling 35)

III. Write essays on any *two* of the following questions in 200 words. Each question carries 10 marks :

- 24 "Toba Tek Singh" portrays the blindness of the leaders in dividing people along communal lines. Substantiate.
- 25 Explicate how Chief Seattle proves man is merely a single strand in the web of life.
- 26 How does Gieve Patel employ irony as a poetic device in "On Killing a Tree" ?
- 27 Kate Chopin's "The Story of an Hour" depicts the state of suppressed womanhood that yearns for limitless freedom. Discuss.

(2 × 10 = 20 marks)

