

D 124124**(Pages : 2)****Name.....****Reg. No.....****SECOND SEMESTER B.VOC. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2025****Common Course****ENG 2A 04—ZEITGEIST : READING ON CONTEMPORARY CULTURE****(2021 Syllabus)****Time : Two Hours and a Half****Maximum : 80 Marks****I. Answer the following questions in two or three sentences. 2 marks each :**

- 1 What is more powerful than bombs and weapons ?
- 2 How did the Muslim friend from Toba Tek Singh who came to visit Bishan Singh introduce himself ?
- 3 What does Seattle want the white man to teach their children ?
- 4 Explain the sarcasm in the words of Seattle when he says 'I am a savage and do not Understand.'
- 5 When did Aaron realize that he was no longer travelling on the road ?
- 6 Why was Zlateh astonished when Aaron led her out on the town road ?
- 7 What is the climax of "The Story of an Hour" ?
- 8 How did Bentley Richard escape the rail road accident ?
- 9 What was the feeling of the speaker in 'Refugee Blues' when he went down the harbour and stood upon the quay ?
- 10 How did the man respond in the court when his baby daughter was brought there for the first time ?
- 11 What did the teacher do when he saw the narrator apparently doing nothing in the class the next day of the picnic ?
- 12 What are Harari's observations about the French revolution ?
- 13 "My prayers are now getting stuck in my throat." Why did the speaker fear so ?
- 14 What does Adrienne Rich mean by 'students' demand to be taken seriously' ?
- 15 Why does a person who has just won a lottery jump with joy ?

(Ceiling 25)**Turn over**

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

- 16 What proves Gandhi's righteousness ?
- 17 Patriotism as a theme in Tagore's "Freedom"
- 18 What is the message of on killing a tree ?
- 19 Compare the character of Zlateh and Aaron.
- 20 Comment on the ending of 'Toba Tek Singh.'
- 21 The medieval man and modern man is essentially the same in the scale of happiness. Argue.
- 22 What should be the contract between the students and faculty ?
- 23 Explain the significance of the title "Toba Tek Singh."

(Ceiling 35)

III. Write essays on any *two* of the following questions in 200 words :

- 24 Analyze Toba Tek Singh as a caustic satire on the absurdity of partition.
- 25 Chief Seattle's speech is a powerful plea for respect of Native Americans rights and environmental values. Substantiate
- 26 Critically evaluate Adrienne Rich's concept of education ?
- 27 How does Yuval Harari define meaning of human life and basic human rights ?

(2 × 10 = 20 marks)