

**CARMEL COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCE AND COMMERCE FOR WOMEN,  
NUVEM, GOA**

**B.A CBCS SEMESTER END EXAMINATION, JULY 2021**

**Semester: VI of B.A**

**END 107: Literature of the Indian Diaspora**

**Date:22/07/2021**

**Duration: 2 hours**

**Total marks:30**

**Total No of Pages: 02**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- *Students shall write down the answers on an A4 size paper. Make sure to write only on one-side of the paper so that the ink does not bleed causing difficulty in reading the scanned document.*

- *Students should fill in necessary information on their answer sheets in advance.*

**Follow the steps below:**

- *Write roll number and sign **each** page at the top left-hand side corner.*
- *Write the page number and date on **each** page at the top right-hand corner.*

- *Students must upload the scanned copy of the answer sheet in PDF format. PDFs should be titled as: Seat number\_ Name of the student\_ Paper code.*

**Example: 20201995\_ Ave Dias\_ END107**

- *All scans must be taken in **PORTRAIT/VERTICAL** mode.*
- *Students will be allotted 2 hours to write and 1 hour to upload the answer sheet.*
- *A student must upload their answer scripts on time. Please do not wait till the last moment to complete this. Once you feel you have answered to your satisfaction, please complete the uploading process.*
- *All questions are compulsory with internal choice.*
- *Figures to the right indicate maximum marks.*

**Q1. Answer any FIVE of the following in approximately 100 words each. (5x2=10)**

1. How does Meena's sense of cultural belonging shift by the end of the novel *Anita and Me* by Meera Syal?
2. How does the presence of nanima change the atmosphere within Meena's home in *Anita and Me* by Meera Syal?
3. 'For being a foreigner, Ashima is beginning to realize, is a sort of lifelong pregnancy – a perpetual wait, a constant burden, a continuous feeling out of sorts. It is an ongoing responsibility...' Chapter 3, Pg.no.49, *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri. How do these lines capture the dilemma of the diasporic experience?
4. What are the symbols of identity and cultural importance in *The Namesake* ?
5. Write a note on the significance of the title – *A Fine Balance*.
6. Write a note on the different diasporas portrayed in Vassanji's Tanzania in *The Book of Secrets*.

7. Why do the expatriate teachers - Pius, Gregory and D'Souza, decide to opt for citizenship in Africa, when they could have returned home at the end of Imperialist rule in *The Book of Secrets* by M.G. Vassanji?
8. Discuss the literary metaphor of 'the quilt' and quilt making. What is the symbolic significance of the colourful quilt that Dina made in the novel - *A Fine Balance* by Rohinton Mistry?

**Q2. Answer any FOUR of the following in approximately 400 words each. (4x5=20)**

1. Describe how Dukhi's hopes for a better future for his children are destroyed by the forces of the caste system in the novel *A Fine Balance* by Rohinton Mistry.
2. *Anita and Me* is a poignant coming-of-age tale of Meena, the irreverent teenage daughter of the only Punjabi family in the mining village of Tollington. When she becomes friends with the impossibly feisty Anita, she thinks she's found her soul mate but her world is turned upside down and she finds herself caught between two cultures.' Discuss with illustrations from the text.
3. Briefly summarise how Pipa struggles as an Asian settler in colonial and post-colonial Africa in *The Book of Secrets* by M.G. Vassanji.
4. Write an essay on the narrative technique of *The Book of Secrets* by M.G. Vassanji.
5. From the young girl who impishly puts her feet into her prospective groom's shoes to ' a widow, on the verge of another sort of departure,...laughing at a story a friend is telling her, ...' Chapter 12. Pg. no. 289, second paragraph, *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri. Write briefly on the growth and transformation of Ashima Ganguli.
6. Immigration is a disorienting experience. The glamour of economic prosperity is balanced by the need to learn a new language, assimilate, face racial prejudice, injustice, loneliness and even tragedy with stoicism. It is only community and friendship that helps a migrant through the experience. Examine how this is true of at least 2 of the novels included in your course of study. (You may refer to more than 2).

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