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III Semester B.A./B.Sc. Degree (C.B.C.S.S. – O.B.E. – Supplementary/ Improvement) Examination, November 2025 (2019 to 2023 Admissions) COMMON COURSE IN ENGLISH

3A05ENG : Readings on Democracy and Secularism

Time: 3 Hours Max. Marks: 40

I. Write an essay in 250 words on one of the following:

 $(1 \times 8 = 8)$

- 1) What is 'meritocracy'? Discuss with reference to the experiences that Kumud Pawde had to go through during her education.
- 2) What are the major concerns that Ambedkar points in his concluding speech to the Constituent Assembly?
- II. Write an essay in 250 words on one of the following:

 $(1 \times 8 = 8)$

- Discuss Nehruvian vision of science and his efforts in creating a scientific society.
- Arakkal dynasty decants from the Chirakkal through a young princess-recount the story of the princess.
- III. Answer four of the following in about 100 words.

 $(4 \times 4 = 16)$

- 5) Ambedkar's reply to the changes of centralization in the constitution.
- 6) 'Kumud started writing letters to the ministers and administrators'. Why?
- 7) Why Prof. Gopinath Ravindran suggest an amendment of the constitution without sacrificing the basic structure?
- 8) How does Nehru's faith in science becomes contemporary?
- 9) Racism in "Blackout".
- 10) 'A Hindu Princess and her Islamic Dynasty' infer about the rigidity of religions in those days. Comment.



IV. Answer eight of the following in **not** more than **two** sentences.

 $(8 \times 1 = 8)$

- 11) What does Hughes try to imply in the line 'I do not need freedom when I am dead'?
- 12) What are the questions that the encounter between the black man and white woman opens up in 'Blackout'?
- 13) What is the metaphor with which the poem 'Africa' begins?
- 14) What was Kamala's opinion about the British attitude towards Indians?
- 15) Which democratic tradition is mentioned in the speech?
- 16) What was Kumud's response to the Chief Minister when he advised her to do research?
- 17) What is the 'basic structure of doctrine'?
- 18) How does Basavanna consider temple and worship of the traditional kind?
- 19) According to Phalkivala what is constitution meant for ?
- 20) What does 'the half inch Himalayas' imply?