Assignment
BEGC-103
INDIANWRITINGINENGLISH
ForJuly2025andJanuary2026sessions (Based on Blocks 1-4)

MaximumMarks100

AnswerAllQuestions

SectionA

Explainthereferencetothecontextthefollowing

4x5=20

(i) Heevenpouredalittleparaffinuponthebittentoeandputamatchtoit.Iwatchedtheflame feeding on my mother.

(ii) Andthewayitcarriedoffthreevillagehouses,
One pregnant woman
Andacoupleofcows
NamedGopiandBrinda,asusual.

(iii) FedonGodforyears
All her feasts were monotonous
Fortheonlydishwasalways God And
the rest mere condiments.

(iv) Banglesellersarewewhobearourshiningloadstothetemplefair...
Whowillbuythesedelicate,brightRainbow-tintedcirclesoflight?

SectionB

Q.II Answerthefollowingquestionsinabout350wordseach:

4x7.5=30

1. GiveacharactersketchofTheMaster.
2. DiscussthethemeoffeminisminthenovelTheBindingVine.
3. Criticallyanalyzethepoem'ARiver'.
4. Discussboththesurfaceanddeepermeaningof'*TheLostChild'*.

SectionC

Q.IIIAnswerthefollowingquestionsinabout600wordseach:

5x10=50

1. Discusstheelementsofsatire,ironyandhumourin*ATigerforMalgudi,*quotingexamplesfromthe text.
2. *TheBindingVine*isastreamofconsciousnessnovel.Doyouagree?Givereasonsforyouranswers.
3. Writeadetailednoteontherise,developmentandthemaincharacteristicsoftheshortstory.
4. Whyisitimportantforprotagonisttolearnswimminginthestory'Swimminglessons'?
5. Discussthethemeofthepoem'Enterprise'byNissimEzekiel.

Explain the reference to the context the following 4x5=20

(i) He even poured a little paraffin upon the bitten toe and put a match to it. I watched the flame feeding on my mother.

Answer

These lines occur in Nissim Ezekiel's poem 'Night of the Scorpion'. The speaker is remembering the night when a scorpion entered the house during heavy rain and stung his mother. As soon as the news spread, neighbours gathered in large numbers. They prayed, chanted the name of God and offered many explanations about sin, fate and the poison moving through the mother's body. The father, who is described as a sceptic and a rationalist, also becomes desperate when he sees his wife suffering.

In this particular moment, the father tries a very harsh physical remedy. He pours paraffin on the bitten toe and sets it on fire. The child who narrates the incident watches the flame 'feeding' on his mother. The image is painful because fire, which is supposed to remove the poison, seems almost like another creature attacking her. It also shows how helpless the family is. Rational remedies, religious prayers and traditional beliefs are all tried, but none gives immediate relief.

The passage is important because Ezekiel does not simply praise one system of belief and reject another. The father calls himself rational, yet fear makes him act in a way that appears as extreme as the superstitions around him. The villagers are also not presented only as foolish; their presence expresses sympathy and concern. Through the child's calm observation, the poem brings together science, superstition, pain and human affection. The mother's final response gives the deepest contrast: after enduring many hours of suffering, she is thankful that the scorpion stung her instead of her children. Thus, the context moves from confusion and physical pain to an image of maternal love and selflessness.