

Central University of Jammu

M. A. Semester IV

Course Title: Postcolonial Writings  
Course Code: PGECL4C001T

Time: 3 Hours  
Marks: 100

The Paper contains three sections A, B and C. All sections are compulsory.

Section A

1.5x10=15

1. With whose quotation Bhabha introduces his essay "Signs Taken for Wonders", which explains the "remarkable peculiarity" that the English have when capitalizing the personal pronoun "I"
  - a) Robert Southey
  - b) Gayatri Spivak
  - c) Ngugi Wa Thiango
  - d) Bill Ashcroft
2. Which postcolonial critic asserts that imperialism is 'the rule of consolidated finance capital'?
  - a) Derek Walcott
  - b) Ngugi wa Thiong'o
  - c) Leopold Singhor
  - d) Franz Fanon
3. The title and themes of Rudyard Kipling's "The White Man's Burden" ostensibly make the poem about:
  - a) Pan-African Movement
  - b) Eurocentric racism
  - c) Industrialization
  - d) Gender Studies
4. The line "thin black children dancing like the shadows of saplings in the wind" is from the poem:
  - a) The Black Man's Burden
  - b) The Poor Man's Burden
  - c) A Far Cry from Africa
  - d) Nigger's Leap, New England
5. Who said, "Ekweyi, is it true that when people are grown up, fire does not burn them?" (*Things Fall Apart*)
  - a) Okonkwo
  - b) Unoka
  - c) Obierika
  - d) Ezinm
6. What are the egwugwu? (*Things Fall Apart*)
  - a) Culture
  - b) Fear
  - c) Family
  - d) Dreams
7. Who escapes the family nose? (*Midnight's Children*)
  - a) Saleem
  - b) Amina
  - c) Jamila
  - d) Emerald
8. Who said, "What a useless son you've got, Amma; can't you see there's a hole in the middle of me the size of a melon"? (*Midnight's Children*)
  - a) The Buddha
  - b) Parvati
  - c) Aadam Aziz
  - d) Shiva

9. Maria's maternal grandfather, Pierre Dubuque, is descended from: (*Half Breed*)

- a) The French.
- b) The Scottish
- c) The Cree
- d) The English

10. In the residential school what was Maria not allowed to speak? (*Half Breed*)

- a) Cree.
- b) English
- c) Spanish
- d) French

#### Section B

#### Short Answers

Answer the following questions in about 150-200 words: -

(8x5=40)

1. Write a short note on Homi Bhabha's concept of 'Hybridity.'

OR

Discuss the term postcolonial as defined by Ashcroft et al.

2. Briefly discuss the imagery in Judith Wright's poem "Niggers' Leap New England."

OR

Comment on the lines, "Hail ye your fearless armies,/Which menace feeble folks/Who fight with clubs and arrows/and brook your rifle's smoke" from Johnson's "Black Man's Burden."

3. Explain why does Okonkwo kill himself in the novel *Things Fall Apart*.

OR

What does the repetition of the number seven suggest about the novel *Things Fall Apart*?

4. Why is time so disjointed in *Midnight's Children*?

OR

Why do you think *Midnight's Children* is divided into three sections?

5. Discuss gender relations in Maria's 'Halfbreed' community.

OR

Discuss the impact of racism on Maria's family as described in *Half Breed*

#### Section C

#### Long Answers

Answer any three of the following questions in about 250-300 words: -

(15x3=45)

1. "The Language of my education was no longer the language of my culture" Ngugi writes in *Decolonising the Mind*. How are language and culture related? Discuss with reference to Ngugi's essay.
2. Discuss the theme of post colonialism by comparing the two poems 'White Man's Burden' and 'Black Man's Burden'
3. Women suffer great losses in the novel *Things Fall Apart* but also, in certain circumstances, hold tremendous power. What role do women play in Okonkwo's life?
4. To what extent has the legacy of the British Empire, as presented in the novel *Midnight's Children*, contributed to the turbulent character of Indian life?
5. Critically examine *Half-Breed* as the story of Maria Campbell as a native Canadian and a woman.