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PART-A

12 YEARS' MCQS SOLVED

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TOPIC: 1.1 INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE

TEST-1

1. *Joothan* by Om Prakash Valmiki is

- (A) a collection of poems
- (B) a play
- (C) an autobiography**
- (D) a novel

(Joothan: An Untouchable's Life is autobiography by Om Prakash Valmiki. Translated from Hindi to English by Arun Prabha Mukherjee, Joothan symbolizes the poverty and humiliation faced by Dalits for centuries. Valmiki recounts his struggle against persecution and his empowerment through the influence of Dalit leader B. R. Ambedkar.)

2. Which two of the following are autobiographical narratives?

- a) Kanthapura
- b) Meatless Days**
- c) Prison and Chocolate Cake**
- d) The God of small things

The correct option is:

- (A) (a) and (b)
- (B) (b) and (c)**
- (C) (a) and (c)
- (D) (c) and (d)

(Meatless Days: A Memoire, which describes Pakistan's violent history of Independence, is by Sara Suleri. *Prison and Chocolate Cake* (1954)-a memoir by Nayantara Sahgal)

3. Nirad Chaudhuri's *Autobiography of an Unknown Indian* concludes with an essay on the course of Indian history. But in the penultimate chapter Chaudhuri concludes the account of events in his life. How does this narrative end?

- (A) Chaudhuri ties the knot with his childhood sweetheart and moves from Calcutta to Delhi.
- (B) Chaudhuri obtains a job in the military accounts department and gives it up because he finds it soul-destroying.**
- (C) Chaudhuri joins the editorial team of a Calcutta newspaper and is upset over the drudgery of a reporter's life.
- (D) Chaudhuri rushes to his ancestral village Bangram on receiving the news of the death of his uncle and recalls his past life.

(Autobiography of an Unknown Indian (1951): is divided into 4 books. Nirad chronicles his life from birth in Kishoreganj, Bangladesh. He won **Sahitya Academi** Award for his biography *Scholar Extraordinary: Life of Friedrich Max Muller* in 1975)

4. The title of M.C. Chagla's autobiography is:

- (A) Memoirs of my Working Life
- (B) Without Fear or Favour
- (C) Roses in December**
- (D) The Pen as My Sword

(Memoirs of my Working Life (1951)- Autobiography by **Sir M. Visveswarayya**, *Without Fear or Favour: Memories and Thoughts of a President*-by **Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy**, *Roses in December* (1973)-Autobiography by **Mohammadali Carim Chagla**, *The Pen as My Sword: Memoirs of A Journalist*-by **K. Rama Rao**)

5. In 1941 John Day Company in New York published Jawaharlal Nehru's autobiography under the title

- (A) **Toward Freedom**
- (B) In Search of Freedom
- (C) Toward Independence
- (D) In Search of Independence

(*An Autobiography/Toward Freedom* is written between 1934-35 when Nehru was in prison. He also talks about his ancestors migrating from Kashmir to Delhi in 1716 in Descent from Kashmir)

6. Identify from the following the work Nirad C. Chaudhuri called the finest novel in the English language with an Indian theme.

- (A) **Kim**
- (B) A Passage to India
- (C) Train to Pakistan
- (D) Private Life of an Indian Prince

(Kim, a novel by **1907 Nobel Awardee Rudyard Kipling**, popularized the phrase **The Great Game**, which was used to refer to the political conflict between **Russia** and **Britain**.)

The story is set in Lahore, British India, and follows Kimball **O'Hara, Jr.**, known as Kim, an Irish orphan who lives a vagabond life on the streets. Kim befriends an aged **Tibetan lama** and decides to accompany him on a quest to find the legendary River of the Arrow. As they journey south, Kim delivers a classified letter for Mahbub Ali, a spy for the British empire. Along the way, Kim encounters soldiers who recognize him by his father's Masonic certificate and send him to school in Lucknow. Despite his education, Kim longs to reunite with the lama. Colonel Creighton recognizes Kim's potential as a spy and enrolls him at St. Xavier's. Kim undergoes training with Mahbub Ali and Lurgan Sahib, preparing him for a career in espionage. After completing his studies, Kim embarks on a trial period of traveling and spying. Kim reunites with the lama and aids him on his quest, but their journey is interrupted by encounters with Russian and French intelligence agents. Kim retaliates against the Russian man, prompting the lama to reconsider their path. Returning to the plains, Kim and the lama confront their inner turmoil and physical ailments. The lama has a vision revealing the location of the **River of the Arrow**, and together they achieve enlightenment by bathing in its waters.)

7. *Silence! The Court is in Session* is a _____ play translated into English.

- (A) Gujarati
- (B) Bengali
- (C) **Marathi**
- (D) Kannada

(*Silence! The Court is in Session* (1967), in **Marathi Shantata! Court Chalu Ahe!**, is a play by **Vijay Tendulkar**. The play is based on **Die Panne (Traps)**, penned by Swiss writer **Frederich Durrenmatt**. The play revolves around a village group preparing for a performance. When an actor misses rehearsal, a local man fills in and they decide to stage a mock trial to familiarize him with court procedures. However, this exposes hidden secrets among the cast, causing turmoil. The Sonar Moti Tenement (Bombay) Progressive Association gathers to stage a mock trial of American President Lyndon B. Johnson over atomic weaponry proliferation. The group includes Mr. Kashikar, a social worker, his wife, the actor Karnik, lawyer Sukhatme, science student Ponkshe, vibrant teacher Benare, and Balu Rodke, an errand-boy. Two absent members are Professor Damle and Mr. Rawte. When