

**B.Com. (MODEL I) DEGREE [C.B.C.S.S.] EXAMINATION  
MARCH 2015**

**Fourth Semester**

Common Course—English

**REFLECTIONS ON VITAL ISSUES**

(2013 Admissions)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 80 Marks

**Part A**

*Answer all the questions. Each question carries 1 mark :*

1. Why does Fritjof Capra say that one of the most dangerous institutional growth today is that of corporations ?
2. What does Stiglitz say about the growing divide between the haves and the have-nots ?
3. What are the changes money has made in each individual ?
4. What according to Vandana Shiva, was the negative side of the first ten years of trade liberalisation in India ?
5. How does J.P. Das criticise the apathy shown by the academic community towards poverty and misery ?
6. Why does Martin Luther King say that it will be fatal to ignore the demands of the African American ?
7. What are the most disturbing effects of being known as HIV positive ?
8. Why do you think Soyinka introduces the two buttons on the phone, the red bus, the post box etc ?
9. Do you think that the girl is attentive to what the old woman says ? What evidence do you have to substantiate your argument ?
10. What does Mrs. Pearson say about the club that infuriates her husband ?

(10 × 1 = 10)

**Part B**

*Answer any eight of the following questions in 2-3 sentences each. Each question carries 2 marks :*

11. List out the *two* simplistic arguments raised by Amarthya Sen to account for the neglect of women in India and elsewhere.
12. When did the thought of having a wife occur to the narrator in the essay 'Why I want a wife' ? What is significant about the time at which she thinks so ?
13. What conclusions can you draw from the 'handkerchief' incident in the poem 'At the Back of Progress' ?

**Turn over**

14. What advice does the old woman impart to the girl regarding medicines in the poem 'Girl' ?
15. How does Wole Soyinka make the ending of the poem 'Telephone Conversation' striking and effective ?
16. What is the justification given for the argument that totalitarian Governments respect human rights ?
17. How has economic globalization hijacked culture ?
18. Identify the dispossessed and explain their plight according to S. Joseph.
19. What have been the serious side effects of globalisation ?
20. What do multinational corporations search for on a global basis ?
21. What is meant by 'Kalahandi is very close to us' ?
22. Why was Valmiki taken home by his father during school hours ?

(8 × 2 = 16)

### Part C

*Answer any six of the following in about 100 words each.  
Each question carries 4 marks.*

23. How did the Asian crisis pose a threat to world economy ?
24. How does Capra trace the environmental destruction in Third World countries to the actions of multinational corporations ?
25. How does J. P. Das prove that different categories of people are hypocritical in their attitude towards the famished destitutes ?
26. Critically examine how Kalpana Jain uses Ashok as a symbol of AIDS patients who get only indifference or even active hostility from people.
27. Do you think that the African in the poem 'Telephone Conversation' is a well-educated man ? Substantiate your answer with reasons and examples from the poem.
28. What signs of caste discrimination are portrayed in Joothan ?
29. Evaluate Mrs. Pearson's attitudes to her family before Mrs. Fitzgerald effects the transformation in her family.
30. What does the term 'missing women' imply ? What is Amartya Sen's rough estimate of the number of missing women ?
31. In what way has money come to determine the value of everything ?

(6 × 4 = 24)

**Part D**

*Answer any two questions in about 300 words each. Each question carries 15 marks :*

32. What are the specific duties of a wife that belittle her freedom or individuality ? Which are the duties expected of a wife that clearly show gender discrimination ? Try and pinpoint what the author is trying to convey through the essay 'Why I want a Wife' ?
33. Enumerate all the advice the old woman gives the young girl. Does the advice appear to be carefully planned and exhaustive ?
34. Examine Omprakash Valmiki's description of caste discrimination in the village. Do you think the situation is any different in a city environment ?
35. Lawrence offers some solutions to the problems caused by money-mindedness. Do you think they are practical ? What are the solutions for this problem at the individual and societal level ?

(2 × 15 = 30)