

Reg. No..... Name:.....

MA DEGREE END SEMESTER EXAMINATION MARCH 2016

SEMESTER - 4: ENGLISH

**COURSE: P4ENGT20EL: THE PUBLIC SPHERE AND ITS CONTEMPORARY
CONTEXT**

Time: Three Hours

Max. Marks: 75

Part A

Answer **any Five** of the following, each in a paragraph of about 50 words

1. What are the defining features of the public sphere according to Habermas?
2. The tele-screen" contraption in George Orwell's 1984
3. How does Johnson explicate the Habermasian notions of "life world" and "system"?
4. Why is Vinay Dharwadker surprised by the suppression of "Three Hundred Ramāyānas" several years after its publication?
5. What does Pramod Nayar mean by "mathematisation of the body"?
6. Discuss the reception of Taslima Nasreen's Dwikhandito (The Broken).
7. How does George Yudice explain "free trade" as "deregulation"?
8. The treatment of traditional gender roles in Dance Like a Man

(3 x 5 = 15)

Part B

Write short essays of about 100 words on **any Five** of the following

9. Comment on Rushdie's discussion of comic books and super-heroes vis-à-vis religious texts and God.
10. Habermas's notion of the "Liberal Model of the Public Sphere"
11. How is Rachel Corrie's "Last Email from the Gaza Strip" different from a professional media report?
12. Discuss McKeon's clarifications regarding the metaphorical force of the concept of the public sphere?
13. Why does Miyoshi advocate "planetarianism" as the necessary "basis and goal" of literary studies as well as other disciplines?
14. "Politics of Purity" in Othappu: The Scent of the Other Side
15. What is "convergence," as defined by Eric Kluitenberg?
16. The theme of survival in Woman at Point Zero

(6 x 5 = 30)

(P.T.O.)

Part C

(Write essays of about 300 words on any **Two** of the following)

17. Discuss “academic censorship” with reference to VinayDharwadker’s account of the “Three Hundred Ramāyānas” episode
18. Discuss the propositions that Pramod Nayar advances on “contemporary biometric cultures of surveillance”.
19. “Fiction of hope, faith, and the limits of endurance” – Would you agree with this description of Goat Days?
20. Comment on the corporate strategy that Arundhati Roy sums up as “the Lazy Manager’s Guide to Corporate Success”?

(15 x 2 = 30)
