

M. A. DEGREE END SEMESTER EXAMINATION - MARCH 2026
SEMESTER 4 : ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
COURSE : 24P4ENGT21EL : HEALTH HUMANITIES AND TRAUMA NARRATIVES
(For Regular 2024 Admission)

Time : Three Hours

Max. Weights: 30

PART A**Answer any 8 questions****Weight: 1**

1. What is the definition of trauma according to Cathy Caruth, and how does it relate to experiences of extreme violence or disaster? (An)
2. How does Manisha Koirala's narrative function as a *pathography*? (A, CO 1)
3. Why is the water tasted by the speaker in the poem "Tulips" salty? (U, CO 3, CO 4)
4. Analyse the role of **narrative medicine** in *When Breath Becomes Air*. How does storytelling become a mode of healing and meaning-making? (E, CO 2)
5. Elaborate on the core research patterns employed in health humanities. (U, CO3)
6. What emotion dominates the speaker's tone in the poem "The Pain Reliever"? (U, CO 2, CO 3)
7. How does Engelberg use the graphic novel to convey her experience with cancer and its effects on her life? (U, CO 5, CO 6)
8. How does graphic medicine incorporate personal narratives into medical practice and education? (U)
9. Explain the significance of the title *When Breath Becomes Air* in relation to health and mortality. (An, CO 2)
10. Define Autoethnography with suitable examples. (E, CO 2)
(1 x 8 = 8)

PART B**Answer any 6 questions****Weights: 2**

11. "Silence is the sound the knife makes slitting the skin." Explain. (E, CO 1, CO 5)
12. In what ways does *The Bad Doctor* challenge traditional understandings of the doctor-patient relationship? (U)
13. How does Kalanithi negotiate the tension between **clinical detachment and emotional vulnerability**? Discuss from a Health Humanities perspective. (E, CO 2)
14. Examine the stage settings in the play *Brief Candle*. (E, CO 2, CO 3)
15. **Discuss illness as a transformative experience in *Healed***. How does the memoir reflect key ideas of health humanities regarding illness as a site of meaning-making rather than mere pathology? (A, CO 3)
16. How would you consider storytelling to be therapeutic for patients? (E, CO 3, CO 5)
17. Why do some people experience flashbacks or intrusive thoughts about traumatic events? (E, CO 3, CO 5)

18. Analyse the gendered dynamics between Dr. Gauri Nath and Dr. Saira Sabharwal. How does the series use mentorship, betrayal, and ambition to explore trauma in female medical professionals? (R, CO 5)

(2 x 6 = 12)

PART C

Answer any 2 questions

Weights: 5

19. What ethical considerations are involved in the intersection between medicine and the humanities, and how can a deeper understanding of these considerations help us navigate complex healthcare issues? (E, CO 4, CO 5)
20. How does Carrie Olivia Adams use imagery and symbolism to explore the tension between physical pain and emotional suffering in "The Pain Reliever"? (E, CO 2, CO 5)
21. Critically examine how *Cancer Made Me A Shallower Person* contributes to the ongoing discussions about patient-centered care and healthcare delivery. (E, CO 3, CO 5)
22. How does cancer reshape Kalanithi's sense of self, professional identity, and masculinity? Analyse the body as both a biological and cultural text in the memoir. (U, CO 3)

(5 x 2 = 10)

OBE: Questions to Course Outcome Mapping

CO	Course Outcome Description	CL	Questions	Total Wt.
CO 1	Explain the interface between medicine, narrative, trauma and memory.	Cr	2, 11	3
CO 2	Identify the psychological and theoretical foundations of medical humanities.	E	4, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 20	13
CO 3	Analyse the various theories and texts which deal with trauma, memory and the role of narratives in dealing with them.	An	3, 6, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22	20
CO 4	Analyse graphic novels in the light of medical humanities/health humanities.	A	3, 19	6
CO 5	Apply the appropriate critical strategies of medical humanities/health humanities to texts.	A	7, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21	24
CO 6	Evaluate the role of graphic novels in health humanities	R	7	1

Cognitive Level (CL): Cr - CREATE; E - EVALUATE; An - ANALYZE; A - APPLY; U - UNDERSTAND; R - REMEMBER;