

# Department of English

## Question Bank

**Subject: Commonwealth literature**

**Sub code:EEN512S**

**Staff:** Mrs.P.Ananthi

Mrs.M.A.Mary

Mrs.T.Shalini

### **2 marks:**

- 1) What is the theme used in “**The Dying Eagle**”?
- 2) What does Shirley Lim’s poem focus on?
- 3) Explain the context-“**The chatter of cluttered apes  
Which is called civilization over there?**”
- 4) Annotate: **Like a rain drenched raven  
On the branch of a oak in November**
- 5) Annotate: **Dug recesses in the granite.  
Partridge ?Heron ?Falcon ?Eagle?  
Game or foe?**
- 6) Annotate: **Deaf to the mighty symphony of wings,  
And brooding  
Over the last empire of the peaks.**
- 7) Annotate: **And her five cities like five teeming sores,  
Each drain her: a vast parasite robber-state**
- 8) Annotate: **They call young a country, but they lie:  
She is the last of lands ,the emptiest.**
- 9) Who has an encounter with a foreign invader in “The Dying Eagle”?
- 10) What are the differences observed in Achebe’s “The Novelist as a Teacher”?
- 11) Annotate: **The sons and the daughters  
Are young ,you have married late**
- 12) What are the two examples given by Achebe to show that the African psyche is entangled?
- 13) Write few works of Chinua Achebe.
- 14) Annotate: **The debts of duty  
You are home , on a hard bed  
Out of sleep,when you need sleep most.**
- 15) Who is the winner in “The Lion and the Jewel”?
- 16) What is the allegation with reference to the African writer’s writings?

- 17) Annotate: **A women beyond her change of life, a breast  
Still tender but within the womb is dry.**
- 18) Who is Lakunle?
- 19) What is the central theme in “A basket of Strawberries”.
- 20) What makes Sadiku an adaptable woman to changing circumstances?
- 21) Annotate: **“Now you are ill  
The good god return you the breath of your youth”**
- 22) Explain the context –“She feels complimented for the traveler had commented  
About her beauty in the following words loveliness beyond  
The jewels of a throne”
- 23) Who is referred to as “Faithful lizard” in “The Lion And The Jewel”?
- 24) Who is lion and jewel?
- 25) How many different themes are there in “The Stone Angel”?
- 26) What is Hagar’s solution to a difficult situation?
- 27) Write the works of Margaret Laurence
- 19) Classify the various houses of Mr. Biswas?
- 20) What was the first job of Mr. Biswas?
- 21) At port of Spain for which Journal Mr. Biswas work?
- 22) How many children did Mr. Biswas have?
- 23) What was the Horoscope predicted for Mr. Biswas?
- 24) What is `Roughing In The Bush` about?
- 25) What does Moodie attempt to present in “Roughing In The Bush”?
- 26) What is the central theme of Roughing In The Bush?
- 27) Who taught music to Shenbagam?
- 28) Who is Kanakambal?
- 29) When you say tell me him please  
That the anger has come to pass- Annotate
- 30) Annotate:  
“Words are words except for us  
They are not personalities”
- 31) Annotate:

“The night has passed ,waiting ,the star-dust is settling”

- 32) Who is Appana?
- 33) What is the role played by Cobra in Nagamandala?
- 34) What is “Roughing it in the bush” about?
- 35) When do people experience “Loneliness”.

### **5 marks:**

1. Bring out the contrasting picture of standardization in the poem “Australia”
2. How does E.J.Pratt personifies an eagle.
3. Analyse the poem “words for father”
4. How does the first section of the poem “Australia” highlights?
5. Classify the changes in “the dying eagle”.
6. Discuss A.D. hope as an Australian poet
7. Discuss the prominent themes used in “the novelist as a teacher”
8. What is the task before the winter according to Achebe?
9. Comment on the characterization of Baroka and Sidi
10. Sketch the character of Baroka
11. Illustrate the theme of African literature
12. Sketch the character of bale Baroka in “the Loin and the Jewel”
13. Discuss the significance of the title “The Stone Angel”
14. Discuss the central theme in Margaret Laurence’s “the stone angel”
15. Justify the title “The Stone Angel”
16. Assess the themes of African literature.
17. Discuss about the major characters in “A basket of strawberries”.
18. Describe the major role played by Naga in Karnad’s play.
19. What does Moodie attempt to present in “Roughing it in the Bush”.
20. With what note does the poem Loneliness end.
21. Discuss the character of Shanmugam.
22. Sketch the character of Kadhivel Pillai.
23. Analyse the character of Mr.Biswas?
24. Why did Mr.Biswas have a liking to own a house?
25. Discuss of role-played by fate in the life of Mr.Biswas?

## 10 marks:

1. Give a detailed analysis of pope's poem "Australia"
2. Why do you think E.J. Pratt chose an eagle for his poem "the dying eagle"
3. Bring out A.D. hope's vision of "Australia"
4. Critically appreciate Shirley lim's "words for father"
5. Explain the poem "the dying eagle"
6. Illustrate the ideas of Achebe's "the novelist as a teacher"
7. Do you agree that the lion and the jewel treats serious issues in a highest hearted manner?  
Justify
8. Summarize "Words" poem by Edwin Thumboo.
9. Discuss the title "Wrestling".
10. Write the critical analysis of the poem "Loneliness".
11. Elucidate on the complex relationship exists between the African writers and the readers
12. Discuss the role given by Achebe to the African novelist
13. Examine "the lion and the jewel" as a poetic drama
14. Discuss the character of Sidi in Soyinka's "the lion and the jewel"
15. Discuss the plot of Soyinka's "the lion and the jewel"
16. Discuss whether "the stone angel" is an extremely appropriate title for Margaret  
Laurence' novel
17. Sketch the character in "The Stone Angel"
18. Give the significance of the title "The Stone Angel "
19. Discuss the theme of any one of the prescribed novels
20. Critically analyse Moodie's "Roughing it in the Bush".
21. Critically analyse the short story "A basket of strawberries".
22. Rani represents the common submissive Indian rural girl in Nagamandala-Substantiate.
23. Discuss the myth in Nagamandala?
24. What is the central theme of "Roughing it in the Bush".
25. Summarize Moodie's "Roughing it in the Bush".
26. How does the poem describe Loneliness
27. How is Shenbagam cleverly suppressed by her husband in "Wrestling"
28. What were the various professions of Mr.Biswas?
29. Critically analyse "A House For Mr. Biswas"?
30. Did Mr. Biswas establish himself as an individual with self-assertiveness- Analyse.

