



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
NAMBOL L. SANOI COLLEGE, NAMBOL**

**QUESTION BANK
BA English Honours (VI Semester)**

EnH-608: North-East Literature

Unit – I Poetry

Explain, with reference to the context. Each question carries 7 marks.

1. A path winding by the river
Like a serpent half buried
A woman has returned
Her hair uncoiled
Down the path. (2016, 2020)

2. In the next birth
I shall take birth as a bastard
You should also take birth as one
Then let's meet at the ownerless shack
of the marketplace
You and I freely, (2016, 2018)

3. Long ago, the men went beyond the
Surma
to trade, to bring home women
to nurture their seed. (2016, 2019)

4. There are times when I find all
roads blocked

The threatening 'Ker' – bows aiming

from all sides

At such times I wish I were a minister

The ministers know and show a

thousand roads

They live on crossroads at a million

junction. (2016)

5. Their young wives

Naked and lonely

Saw them on the sea

Nevermore.

(2017, 2019)

6. I shall grow up as a bazaar dog

Walking alone any direction I choose

none feeding me a morsel of rice

none looking at me with loving eyes. (2017, 2019)

7. Your stricken Land, how they love

Your teeming soil, your bruised

children.

One of them told me, "You know,

Yours is a truly metropolitan city."

(2017)

8. The minister has neither inside

nor outside,

No air, no fertile soil on a sandbank.

There are only words, call of a

hundred open roads,

Pulling at the sleeves day and night.

(2017, 2019)

9. The same thought on all our lips

They would never know
They would never know
Not even the sea know. (2018)

10. Later came the British
with gifts of bullets, blood, money
and religion
A steady conquest to the sound of
guns began. (2018, 2020)

11. There are times I get weary of talking;
Words, sounds and echoes whirl within.
At such times I wish I were a minister
The best way to relieve the heavy
winding entrails. (2018, 2020)

12. Let us only meet
As the price of this birth
freely, even if only for a few minutes
let us embrace
for a moment without fear. (2020)

Answer the following questions in 1 sentence each. Each question carries 1 mark.

1. "The evening is
the greatest medicine-maker."
Why does the poet call 'evening' the greatest medicine-maker? (2016, 2017, 2020)

2. "Distant trees of dreams
Move past
Between us."
What does the poet mean by the above lines? (2016, 2020)

3. "-if grapes are bullets
shoot me again and again."

- Who is the speaker? (2016, 2018, 2020)
4. "Blind men see colours on voices."
What does the poet mean by the above lines? (2016, 2018, 2020)
5. "It is never too late to come home."
Why does the poet say so? (2016, 2020)
6. "It has been called names –a hideout,
for instance-"
What place is referred to in the above lines? (2016, 2018)
7. When did Ren leave his mother and his home? (2016, 2018, 2020)
8. "He came with twine objectives."
Who is the 'He' referred to here? (2016, 2018, 2020)
9. "Let's touch our beloved soil."
Who is the speaker of the above line? (2016, 2020)
10. "Smoke'd men at the door."
Who are the 'men' referred to here? (2016, 2018, 2020)
11. "She kissed me lovingly."
Who is the 'She' referred to here? (2016)
12. How does the poet like to die as reflected in the poem, *The Ecstasy*? (2016, 2018, 2020)
13. "Their bellies are sunken to the bones."
Whose bellies are referred to in the above lines? (2017, 2019)
14. "In this frost-silent Japanese silk-night if I could die."
What kind of night is referred to in the above lines? (2017, 2019)
15. "Who else will dream

Such a dream?"

What kind of dream is referred to here? (2017, 2019)

16. "Hachukrai, do you hear"

Who is Hachukrai referred to in the above lines? (2017, 2019)

17. "The evening is
the greatest medicine-maker"

Why does the poet say so? (2017, 2019)

18. "But I need a homeland"

Why does the poet need a homeland? (2017, 2019)

19. "But he left like a defused bomb."

Who is 'he' referred to here? (2017, 2019)

20. "... but the area grows different after
sunset."

What area is referred to in the above line? (2017, 2019)

21. Who is Ren in the poem, *Ren*? (2017)

22. "Travelling
By train
With a child."

What does the poet mean by the above lines? (2017)

23. "She embraced me dearly"

Who embraced whom? (2017, 2019)

24. "Which is more fragrant
The reports of the guns or the scent of
flowers?"

What does the poet mean by the above lines? (2017, 2019, 2020)

25. "We left the tall trees standing
We left the children playing."

Why does the poet say so? (2018)

26. Hachukrai, how would you touch the soil
And swear by it?

What does the poet mean by the above lines? (2018)

27. Calling "Mother, Mother."

Who is the 'mother' referred to here? (2018, 2020)

28. Whose beloved is Ren in the poem, *Ren*? (2019)

29. "Their heads are sooty."

Whose heads are referred to in the above lines? (2019)

30. "... because the area grows after sunset."

What area is referred to in the above lines? (2019)

Answer the following questions. Each question carries 6 marks.

1. Write the central idea of Thangjamlbopishak's poem, *The Land of the Half Human*. (2016, 2018, 2020)
2. Dwell on the significance of the title, *The Conquest*. (2016, 2018, 2020)
3. Discuss the theme of political satire in the poem, *Of a Minister*. (2016)
4. Give a critical appreciation of the poem, *The Missing Link*. (2016, 2017, 2018, 2020)
5. Bring out the central idea of the poem, *Hymn to Mother*. (2016, 2018, 2020)

6. Dwell on the theme of Thangjamlobishak's poem, *The Land of the Half Humans*. (2017, 2019)
7. Write the central idea of the poem, *The Conquest*. (2017, 2019)
8. Critically evaluate the poem, *Of a Minister* as a political satire. (2017, 2019)
9. Bring out the patriotic feelings expressed in H. Irabot Singh's poem, *Hymn to Mother*. (2017, 2019)
10. Assess the poem, *Of a Minister* as a political satire. (2018, 2020)
11. Write the central idea of the poem, *The Missing Link*. (2019)

UNIT – II (FICTION)

Answer the following questions in about 50-60 words each. Each question carries 3 marks.

1. Describe the scenic beauty of Heibokching as painted by Dr. Kamal in *Madhabi*. (2016)
2. Describe, after Indira Goswami, the physical appearance of Brigadier Man Singh. (2016, 2018, 2020)
3. Describe the scenic beauty of Shillong as painted by Dr. Kamal in *Madhabi*. (2017, 2019)
4. Describe the physical appearance of three-wheeler driver Santokh Singh who took the narrator daily to the university. (2017, 2019)
5. Draw, after Dr. Kamal, a pen-picture of Kanchipur as reflected in his novel *Madhabi*. (2018, 2020)

Answer the following questions. Each question carries 12 marks.

1. Dwell on the significance of the title *Madhabi*.

Or

Analyze the character of *Madhabi* as embodiment of universal love and sacrifice. (2016, 2018, 2020)

2. Critically examined the relevance of the theme of Indira Goswami's *Pages Stained with Blood* to the contemporary life in India.

Or

Comment on the appropriateness of the title of Indira Goswami's novel, *Pages Stained with Blood*. (2016, 2018, 2020)

3. Dwell on the theme of love and sacrifice in *Madhabi*.

Or

Assess Dr. Kamal's *Madhabi* as a reflection of the contemporary Manipuri society of the early 20th century. (2017, 2019)

4. Bring out the significance of the title of Indira Goswami's novel, *Pages Stained with Blood*.

Or

Sketch the character of Brigadier Man Singh as drawn by Indira Goswami in *Pages Stained with Blood*. (2017, 2019)

UNIT-III (SHORT STORIES)

Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words. Each question carries 2 marks.

1. Describe the physical appearance of Rosa Margaret Field as reflected in *The Holy Dip*. (2016, 2018, 2020)
2. Why did Ratani become the second wife of the Chowkidar in the story, *The River Within*? (2016, 2018, 2020)
3. Why was the narrator dejected when he saw the Inspection Bungalow in the story, *Inspection Report*? (2016, 2018, 2020)
4. Describe the daily routine of the narrator after becoming disabled person in the story, *Thunderbird*. (2016, 2018, 2020)
5. Why did Yaima love the acacia growing on the roadside, opposite the Secretariat Building? (2016, 2018, 2020)
6. Describe Geeta's experience when she went after about a month to the Bungalow of Mrs. Field. (2017, 2019)
7. How did Ratani become Radhika in the story, *The River Within*? (2017, 2019)
8. What did circle inspector Ojha Tomba see in his first inspection to the Middle District Primary School before meeting any teacher as mentioned in *Inspection Report*? (2017, 2019)

9. Describe the feeling of the narrator when he heard his hip bones cracked in the story, *Thunderbird*. (2017)
10. Describe the attitude of Yaima towards the acacia in the story, *The Acacia*. (2017, 2019)
11. How did the narrator feel when he heard his hip bones cracked in the story, *Thunderbird*. (2019)

Answer the following questions. Each question carries 10 marks.

1. Dwell on the theme of the story, *The Holy Dip*. (2016, 2018, 2020)
2. Discuss the significance of the title of the story, *Inspection Report*. (2016, 2018)
3. Critically assess the theme of the story, *The River Within*. (2016, 2018, 2020)
4. Bring out the significance of the story, *Thunderbird*. (2016, 2018)
5. Give a critical appreciation of the story, *The Acacia*. (2016, 2018)
6. Discuss the appropriateness of the title of the story, *The Holy Dip*. (2017, 2019)
7. Assess the theme of corruption in the story, *Inspection Report*. (2017)
8. Write the critical appreciation of the story, *The River Within*. (2017)
9. Bring out the significance of the title of the story, *The Acacia*. (2017)
10. "The taste of freedom after long confinement holds the key to possibilities that the enduring human spirit pursue."
Explain the above statement with reference to the story, *Thunderbird*. (2017)
11. Examine the theme of corruption in the story, *Inspection Report*. (2019)
12. Give a critical appreciation of the story, *The River Within*. (2019)
13. Bring out the significance of the title of the story, *Thunderbird*. (2019)
14. Bring out the significance of the title of the story, *Inspection Report*. (2020)
15. Dwell on the significance of the title of the story, *Thunderbird*. (2020)
16. Write a critical appreciation of the story, *The Acacia*. (2020)