

2025

ENGLISH — GENERAL

Paper : DSE-B-2

(Translation Studies)

Full Marks : 65

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

*Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words
as far as practicable.*

1. Write an essay on the importance of translation in a multilingual society. 10

Or,

Do you agree with view that without translation a regional literature remains in a dark cave? Give reasons. 10

2. Do you think that a translated passage carries the flavour of the original? Answer with suitable illustrations. 10

Or,

Comment on translation as a creative art. 10

3. Translate any one of the following pieces in another language of your choice and then retranslate it in English using your own words : 10×1

- (a) The moment when, after many years
of hard work and a long voyage
you stand in the centre of your room,
house, half-acre, square mile, island, country,
knowing at last how you got there,
and say, I own this,
is the same moment when the trees unloose
their soft arms from around you,
the birds take back their language,
the cliffs fissure and collapse,
the air moves back from you like a wave
and you can't breathe.
No, they whisper. you own nothing.
You were a visitor, time after time
climbing the hill, planting the flag,

Please Turn Over

(2286)

proclaiming.

We never belonged to you.

you never found us.

It was always the other way round.

- (b) As far as we can tell from a purely scientific viewpoint, human life has absolutely no meaning. Humans are the outcome of blind evolutionary processes that operate without goal or purpose. Our actions are not part of some divine cosmic plan, and if planet earth were to blow up tomorrow morning, the universe would probably keep going about its business as usual. As far as we can tell at this point, human subjectivity would not be missed. Hence any meaning that people inscribe to their lives is just a delusion.

4. Write short notes on *any two* of the following :

10×2

- (a) Transcreation
- (b) Culture and Translation
- (c) English translation of Tagore songs
- (d) English translation of *Abol Tabol*.

5. Critically comment on *any one* of the following translated pieces :

15×1

- (a) I know not how thou singest, thy master! I ever listen in silent amazement. The light of thy music illumines the world. The life breath of thy music runs from sky to sky. The holy stream of thy music breaks through all stony obstacles and rushes on.

My heart longs to join in thy song, but vainly struggles for a voice. I would speak, but speech breaks not into song, and I cry out baffled. Ah, thou hast made my heart captive in the endless meshes of thy music, my master!

- (b) I know not who paints the pictures on memory's canvas; but whoever he may be, what he is painting are pictures; by which I mean that he is not there with his brush simply to make a faithful copy of all that is happening. He takes in and leaves out according to his taste. He makes many a big thing small and small thing big. He has no compunction in putting into the background that which was to the fore or bringing to the front that which was behind. In short he is painting pictures and not writing history.
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