

(8 pages)

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B.A (CBCS) DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2025.

Fourth Semester

English

Elective — MYTH AND LITERATURE

(For those who joined in July 2023 onwards)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 75 marks

PART A — (10 × 1 = 10 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

Choose the correct answer :

1. Which of the following is the best definition of a myth?
 - (a) A factual account of historical events
 - (b) A story involving Gods, heroes, or supernatural events, often explaining natural phenomena
 - (c) A scientific theory about the origin of the universe
 - (d) A modern interpretation of science

2. Why is the making stage considered a critical part of myth formation?
 - (a) Because it provides the foundation for creating historical events
 - (b) Because it ensures that the myth stays the same throughout history
 - (c) Because it reflects the changing needs, values, and beliefs of the society
 - (d) Because it focuses exclusively on creating new gods and deities.
3. In Ted Hughes *Tales from Ovid*, how does the flood in the myth typically function?
 - (a) A punishment for humanity's sins and a reset of creation
 - (b) A divine celebration of the gods power
 - (c) A natural disaster with no divine explanation
 - (d) A personal vendetta by a single god against humanity
4. In Ted Hughes' retelling of the myth, who abducts Proserpina (Persephone)?
 - (a) Jupiter (Zeus)
 - (b) Apollo
 - (c) Pluto (Hades)
 - (d) Mars

5. Vedic mythology primarily focuses on which of the following?
- (a) Stories of legendary heroes and kings
 - (b) Rituals, hymns, and the worship of gods associated with nature and cosmic forces
 - (c) The adventures of mortals and their journeys
 - (d) The detailed genealogies of divine beings
6. The Puranas, as part of Indian mythology, are primarily concerned with which of the following?
- (a) Describing the creation of the universe through philosophical discussions
 - (b) Narrating the genealogies of gods, sages, and kings, as well as the history of the world
 - (c) Outlining the rules for daily life and religious practices
 - (d) Providing collections of hymns and mantras
7. What is the primary role of symbols in myths?
- (a) To represent physical objects in the world
 - (b) To convey abstract concepts, emotions, and cultural values
 - (c) To describe historical events
 - (d) To entertain the audience with stories

8. What role do totems typically play in tribal mythology?
- (a) They represent a tribe's connection with the divine and the natural world
 - (b) They are used to mark the tribe's territory during war
 - (c) They serve as historical records of past leaders
 - (d) They are primarily decorative items used for personal adornment
9. According to Devdutt Pattanaik, what role does the goddess Shakti play in Hindu mythology?
- (a) She is the embodiment of knowledge and wisdom
 - (b) She is the cosmic energy that powers the universe
 - (c) She is the goddess of love and beauty
 - (d) She is the protector of mortals against demons

10. Which, mythological theme, as discussed by Devdutt Pattanaik, is frequently portrayed in both classical music and visual arts?

- (a) The birth and death of the universe, symbolizing cosmic cycles
- (b) The financial struggles of mortal kings
- (c) The conflicts between rival human families
- (d) The concept of immortality through magic

PART B — (5 × 5 = 25 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 250 words.

11. (a) Elaborate the role of Women in Mythology.

Or

(b) Write a short note on Performance in the Transmission of Indian Mythology

12. (a) Explain the Transformation of Lycaon in Ted Hughes' Exploration of Hubris.

Or

(b) Examine the role of the Narrator in *Mrs. Midas*.

13. (a) Infer the concept of Dharma in the Epic Texts.

Or

(b) Write briefly on the Mythological Heroes and Their Journeys in the Puranic Texts.

14. (a) Discuss the Role of Numbers as Symbols in Myths.

Or

(b) Elaborate the Gender and Taboos in Tribal Myths.

15. (a) Justify Music as a Medium for Expressing Psychological Devotion.

Or

(b) Elaborate the Mythological Archetypes in Literature.

PART C — (5 × 8 = 40 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 600 words.

16. (a) Infer the Concept of Fate in Mythology.

Or

- (b) Elaborate Genre and Cultural Context in Indian Mythological Narratives.

17. (a) Criticize the idea of Punishment and Redemption in The Four Ages.

Or

- (b) Bring out the role of Transformation in *Pyramus and Thisbe*.

18. (a) Discuss the Evolution of the Myth of the Divine Incarnation 'Avatara' in Indian Mythology.

Or

- (b) Analyse the Concept of Rebirth and Liberation 'Moksha' in the Vedic, Epic, and Puranic Myths.

19. (a) Discuss the use of Natural Elements Water, Fire, Earth, Air as Symbols in Myths.

Or

- (b) Justify Sacrifice as a Rite of Passage that Explores Iconography in Myths.

20. (a) Appraise the Psychological Dimensions of Devotion in Indian Mythology.

Or

- (b) Elaborate the role of Classical Myths in Art and Iconography.