



K25P 2827

Reg. No. :

Name :

III Semester M.A. Degree (CBCSS – OBE – Reg./Supple./Imp.)

Examination, October 2025

(2023 Admission Onwards)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Open Elective Course

MAENG03O05 : Food Culture Studies

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 80

PART – A

I. Answer **any five** of the following in **80** words.

- 1) In Maya Angelou's poem, what kinds of meat dishes does the speaker dream about and how do these contrast with the foods she dislikes ?
- 2) Describe the task the speaker and their partner are engaged in "Squid".
- 3) Who is Ranjan Salgado in *Reef* ?
- 4) Comment on the subtitle of the novel *Like Water for Chocolate*.
- 5) State how Rukmini reacts to the death of her children and her own aging.
- 6) What brings Dev D back to India after thirteen years in the film *Macher Jhol* ? (5×4=20)

PART – B

II. Answer **any three** of the following in **150** words.

- 7) Demonstrate how Roland Barthes' ideas about the impact of food advertising be applied to understand the ways modern commercials shape consumer perceptions of taste and quality.
- 8) Evaluate Barthes' semiotic approach to food in light of contemporary globalized eating practices.
- 9) How would Proust's exploration of involuntary memory through food change if the narrator experienced the madeleine in a modern cafe ?

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- 10) Imagine a new character – a marine biologist visiting Sri Lanka – interacting with Triton. Construct a scenario showing how their perspectives on the reef and its preservation might clash or align and how it could lead to meaningful change.
- 11) Design an alternative ending to *The Lunchbox*. Imagine the ending in which a particular recipe or ingredient triggers a transformative moment for the characters' relationship. (3×8=24)

PART – C

III. Answer **any three** of the following in **300** words.

- 12) Examine the role of ritual feasts in Appadurai's essay as sites where power relations and hierarchies are negotiated and made visible.
- 13) Evaluate how the imagery of blindness and deafness symbolize the labourer's exhaustion and alienation in Jean Toomer's "Harvest Song".
- 14) Discuss how food imagery in *Like Water for Chocolate* serves as a medium of communication beyond language.
- 15) Critically assess how successfully *Salt and Pepper* integrates food imagery with themes of love and identity.
- 16) Analyse how the pushcart serves as a symbol of immigrant struggle and economic survival in Ramin Bahrani's film *Prescribed*. (3×12=36)