

RANI RASHMONI GREEN UNIVERSITY

SEMESTER - IV EXAMINATION, 2025

SUBJECT – ENGLISH

CC 15

AFRICAN & CARIBBEAN LITERATURE

[TIME – 2 HOURS]

[FULL MARKS-40]

1. Answer any **four** of the following questions: **(5x4=20)**
- a. Explore the theme of colonialism as depicted in "The Grass is Singing." How does Lessing critique the colonial system and its impact on both the colonizers and the colonized?
 - b. Discuss the emotional and philosophical conflict presented in "Sea Grapes." How does the imagery of the sea reflect the speaker's internal struggle between longing and duty?
 - c. What does the decaying house in the poem "Ruins of a Great House" symbolize?
 - d. Which social issue is hinted at through the imagery of labor and consumption in the poem " Bread"?
 - e. Why is Johnny migrating overseas in 'Calypso' by Edward Brathwaite? What does the reader tell about the socio-economic condition of the Caribbean Islands in the aftermath of colonialism? Briefly discuss.
 - f. "But he was poor and most days he was hungry" – Who is being referred to here in the poem 'Ogun' by Edward Brathwaite? Why is he poor and hungry?
 - g. What is Mr. Biswas's main goal throughout the novel?
2. Answer any **two** of the following questions: **(10x2=20)**

- a. Explore the theme of marriage and gender roles within the harsh realities of colonial Rhodesia as depicted in "The Grass is Singing."
- b. What natural element is used repeatedly as a metaphor for human emotion in the poem?
- c. How does Derek Walcott use language and imagery in "Ruins of a Great House" to reflect the tension between admiration for European culture and condemnation of its colonial violence?
- d) In "Bread," how does Edward Kamau Brathwaite use the symbol of bread to reflect themes of survival, colonial history, and cultural identity? Discuss how the poem critiques systems of power and exploitation.
- e) How does Brathwaite use rhythm, dialect, and musical references in "Calypso" to capture the voice and spirit of Caribbean identity?
- f) In "Ogun," how does Brathwaite use imagery and tone to reflect the complexity of black masculinity and labour? Analyze how the poem portrays pride, frustration, and unrecognized skill.
- g) Examine the role of family and tradition in shaping Mr. Biswas's life choices. How does his relationship with the Tulsi family affect his personal development and his struggle for autonomy?