



Brainware University
398, Ramkrishnapur Road, Barasat
Kolkata, West Bengal-700125

BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

Term End Examination 2024-2025

Programme – B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2023/B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2024

Course Name – Translation Studies

Course Code - BEN20002

(Semester II)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2:30 Hours

[The figure in the margin indicates full marks. Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.]

Group-A

(Multiple Choice Type Question)

1 x 15=15

1. Choose the correct alternative from the following :

- (i) Around which year was the word translation first used in English? State the right option.
 - a) 1340AD
 - b) 1066AD
 - c) 1789AD
 - d) 1939AD
- (ii) From which language does the root of the word 'Translation' derive? Select the right option.
 - a) Latin
 - b) Greek
 - c) French
 - d) German
- (iii) Who is credited with the first English translation of Kalidasa's Abhijnanasakuntalam? Identify.
 - a) Sir Ian McKellen
 - b) Sir Jim Radcliffe
 - c) Sir William Jones
 - d) Rabindranath Tagore
- (iv) Select the correct answer from the options given below. Which of the following is NOT a factor affecting translation quality?
 - a) Language proficiency of the translator
 - b) Cultural competence of the translator
 - c) Length of the source text
 - d) Time constraints for translation
- (v) Recall the year when Abhijnanasakuntalam was translated by Sir William Jones into English.
 - a) 1789
 - b) 1879
 - c) 1987
 - d) 1978
- (vi) Identify the correct answer from the options given below. According to G.N. Devy, what is translation considered in Western metaphysics?
 - a) A metaphorical parallel to the loss of Eden
 - b) A linear progression
 - c) A linguistic transference
 - d) A perpetual search for perfection

- (vii) Infer the correct answer from the options given below. According to Bhartrhari, what is language?
- a) A medium for expression
 - b) A material view
 - c) A transcendental entity
 - d) Both A and B
- (viii) Choose the correct answer. How did A.K. Ramanujan tackle the issue of conveying cultural nuances in translation?
- a) By including numerous footnotes and glosses
 - b) By providing extensive commentaries as prefaces
 - c) By minimizing cultural references in the translation
 - d) By adding explanatory notes within the translated text
- (ix) Choose the correct answer. Which of the following best summarizes A.K. Ramanujan's translation theory?
- a) Cultural fidelity should be sacrificed for linguistic accuracy
 - b) The translator's task is to make the reader native to the source culture
 - c) Translation is primarily a linguistic endeavor devoid of cultural influence
 - d) Translation involves both linguistic transformation and cultural transmission
- (x) Identify the correct answer from the options given below. The term "transcreation" is used to denote:
- a) The literal translation of texts without any creative input
 - b) The creative rewriting of texts to suit a different cultural context
 - c) The dominance of Western literary norms in translation
 - d) The imposition of English translations in post-colonial discourse
- (xi) Identify the correct answer from the options given below. The traffic in translation between the East and the West during colonial times was:
- a) One-sided, from the East to the West
 - b) Bi-directional, with equal exchanges between East and West
 - c) Non-existent due to linguistic and cultural barriers
 - d) Dominated by translations from Western languages into Eastern languages
- (xii) Identify the correct answer from the options given below. The term "anuvad" in Sanskrit emphasizes:
- a) The importance of originality in translation
 - b) The temporal aspect of translation as repetition or reiteration
 - c) The spatial aspect of translation as carrying across
 - d) The dominance of Western languages in translation
- (xiii) Interpret why Tagore chose not to translate "abhisar" as "tryst" in poem 23 of 'Song Offerings'?
- a) "Tryst" lacks the cultural connotations of Radha-Krishna love found in the original.
 - b) "Tryst" accurately captures the passionate desperation of the lover.
 - c) "Tryst" enhances the intensity of the emotions conveyed in the poem.
 - d) "Tryst" aligns well with the Christian piety depicted in the poem.
- (xiv) Determine how Tagore's translation approaches the celebration of nature in the poems.
- a) It maintains the cultural specificity of Bengali landscapes.
 - b) It draws heavily from the tradition of Bengali Romantic poetry.
 - c) It emphasizes the universality of nature imagery.
 - d) It re-contextualizes nature descriptions within a Western cultural paradigm.
- (xv) Determine from the options, Tagore's rationale for choosing prose over verse in translating Geetanjali.
- a) Prose allows for a more faithful reproduction of the original rhythm and alankara.
 - b) Prose simplifies the expression of complex ideas in the target language.
 - c) Prose facilitates a clearer articulation of the essence of the original poem.
 - d) Prose maintains the lyrical suggestiveness of the geeti-kavita.

Group-B
(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. Observe how Roman Jakobson's inter-lingual and inter-semiotic translation categories differ from one another. (3)
3. Examine the interdisciplinary nature of Translation Studies as a field of academic enquiry. (3)
4. Articulate how "Translation as Rewriting" impacts the status of translators within the literary ecosystem. (3)
5. Discuss the significance of Tagore's translation of Gitanjali in the context of colonial interactions between the source-language culture and the target-language culture. (3)
6. Estimate ways in which the socio-political context influence translation practices in India. (3)

OR

Estimate how translators navigate linguistic and cultural diversity in India's translation landscape. (3)

Group-C
(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. Examine how interdisciplinarity is a key concept in the academic study of Translation. (5)
8. Assess how various disciplines contribute to the study of translation. (5)
9. Examine the key concepts and theories in Translation Studies, as discussed by James S. Holmes. (5)
10. Explain the concept of "anuvad" in the context of Indian literature. (5)
11. Discuss the challenges faced by translators in rendering indigenous knowledges and cultural specificities into Western languages. (5)
12. Explain the significance of translation in the postcolonial context, highlighting how it serves as a battleground for cultural dominance. Provide examples from postcolonial translation theory to support your answer. (5)

OR

Explain the historical significance of Sir William Jones's translations in Indian literature. (5)
