# LITERATURE

## *Literature of India and the Indian Diaspora*

I. CRITICAL READING                 15%

    A.  Purpose and Main Idea
    B.  Structure
    C.  Restatement of Information
    D.  Genres and their Characteristics
    E.  Language and Tone
    F.  Grammar and Syntax
    G.  Vocabulary in Context
    H.  Diction

II. *NECTAR IN A SIEVE* (1954), KAMALA MARKANDAYA    40%

    A.  Kamala Markandaya (1924–2004)
        1.  Biographical Sketch
        2.  A Transnational Feminist Writer

    B.  Historical Context of *Nectar in a Sieve*
        1.  British Colonialism in India
        2.  Religious Traditions in India
        3.  Rural Poverty, Colonialism, and Capitalism
        4.  Indian Independence
        5.  Women's Roles in India

    C.  Plot, Characters, and Themes in *Nectar in a Sieve*

    D.  Reception and Literary Criticism
        1.  Extraordinary Global Popularity
        2.  Critiques of the Novel and its Popularity

III. SHORTER SELECTIONS                 45%

    A.  "Quit India" Speech by Mahatma Gandhi, 1942
        1.  Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi
        2.  *Satyagraha* and *Ahimsa*
        3.  World War II (1939–45)
        4.  The Quit India Movement
        5.  Communal (Hindu-Muslim and Hindu-Sikh) Conflict in India
        6.  SELECTED WORK: "QUIT INDIA" SPEECH
        7.  Analysis of "Quit India" Speech

B. "Tryst With Destiny" Speech by Jawaharlal Nehru, 1947
   1. Jawaharlal Nehru
   2. SELECTED WORK: "TRYST WITH DESTINY" SPEECH
   3. Analysis of "Tryst with Destiny"

C. "Imaginary Homelands," "The Riddle of Midnight: India, August 1987," and "'Commonwealth Literature' Does Not Exist" by Salman Rushdie
   1. Salman Rushdie
   2. Postmodernism and Magical Realism
   3. Nations and Nationalism
   4. The Commonwealth of Nations
   5. SELECTED WORK: "THE RIDDLE OF MIDNIGHT: INDIA, AUGUST 1987"
   6. Analysis of "The Riddle of Midnight: India, August 1987,"
   7. SELECTED WORK: "IMAGINARY HOMELANDS"
   8. Analysis of "Imaginary Homelands"
   9. SELECTED WORK: "'COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE' DOES NOT EXIST"
   10. Analysis of "'Commonwealth Literature' Does Not Exist"

D. "Background, Casually" by Nissim Ezekiel
   1. Nissim Ezekiel
   2. Bene Israel
   3. SELECTED WORK: "BACKGROUND, CASUALLY"
   4. Analysis of "Background, Casually"

E. "When Mr. Pirzada Came to Dine" by Jhumpa Lahiri from *Interpreter of Maladies*
   1. Jhumpa Lahiri
   2. Bangladesh
   3. SELECTED WORK: "WHEN MR. PIRZADA CAME TO DINE"
   4. Summary of "When Mr. Pirzada Came to Dine"
   5. Analysis of "When Mr. Pirzada Came to Dine"