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## The Assam Royal Global University, Guwahati

Royal School of Languages

BA English 6<sup>th</sup> Semester

Semester End Examination, June 2023

Course Title: New Literatures in English

Course Code: ENGI02D601

Time: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 70

**Note: Attempt all questions as per instructions given.**

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.*

### Section – A

1. Attempt **all** questions. (Maximum word limit 50) 2 x 8
- How are women placed in the Afghan world as seen in *A Thousand Splendid Suns*?
  - What does the Bamiyan valley speak of the history and culture of ancient Afghanistan or Hindu Kush?
  - According to Clare Chambers, how can one cross 'borders' in the modern world?
  - Why did Achebe settle in a foreign country even as he deeply felt for his motherland? Explain in reference to Pilkington's interview?
  - What is the "accident of birth" mentioned in Muldoon's "Blemish"? Write briefly about its significance.
  - Where is the Maple tree in Aygi's poem located? What does it stand for in the social context?
  - What is the purpose of the initial soliloquy in *Strange Interlude*? Who is it by?
  - Write a short note on the character of Nina Leeds.

### Section – B

2. Attempt **any one** of the following: 12 x 1
- Critically analyze the political, religious, gender and educational affairs in the Afghanistan as visible in *A Thousand Splendid Suns*.
  - What do you think the Taliban regime wants to arrive at in their world/society as seen in *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Critically analyze. You can also refer to recent political developments in that region.
3. Attempt **any two** of the following: 7 x 2
- How are the modern e-bookstores on platforms like Amazon different from traditional-physical bookstores? Explain highlighting your own views as well.
  - Why is the 'Postcolonial Couch' not a comfortable place to sit on? What are the characteristics of a person who is 'indifferent'?
  - How is Achebe rooted in his culture even though he sits far away from it? Refer to Pilkington's interview with Achebe.
4. Attempt **any two** of the following: 7 x 2
- Write a critical analysis of "Holy Thursday".
  - How is the concept of the oppressed voice used by Gennady Aygi? Write from your understanding of the two poems.