

2071

M.A. (English) Fourth Semester
Paper – XVII [Opt. (iv)]: American Literature - II
(Multicultural American Fiction: 1980 to the Present)

Time allowed: 3 Hours

Max. Marks: 80

NOTE: Attempt all questions.

x-x-x

- I. "God Help the Child, raises vexing questions about the construction of identity in the face of childhood trauma inflected through the lens of race." Elaborate the statement with illustrations from the text.

OR

Do you think *God Help the Child*, exposes the vagaries of black masculinity sensitively and insightfully? (16)

- II. Is it appropriate to label *Ravelstein* as a memoir? If not, why?

OR

"Why does the century—I don't know how else to put it—underwrite so much destruction?" says Ravelstein. Do you think the novel is an important document on the relationship between literature and politics? (16)

- III. Sandra Cisneros uses 'Spanglish' in *The House on Mango Street*. Do you think using Spanglish is a strategy of Chicana writers to provide a new socio-cultural representation to the Hispanic community?

OR

Do you think *The House on Mango Street* breaks with the traditional *bildungsroman*? (16)

- IV. Comment on the art of characterization in *The Round House*.

OR

Discuss the use of Ojibwa legends and cultural practices in Erdrich's *The Round House*. (16)

P.T.O.

(2)

V. What is Takaki's perspective on race and ethnicity in America? Discuss.

OR

"A Different Mirror is an alternative narrative, one which emphasizes, and persuasively demonstrates, that non-white people have played pivotal roles in the development of the United States." Illustrate. (16)

x-x-x