

**ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BANGALORE- 27**  
**B.A./B.Sc./B.S.W. - I SEMESTER**  
**MID-SEMESTER EXAMINATION: AUGUST 2019**  
**AE 118- ADDITIONAL ENGLISH**

**TIME: 60 MINUTES**

**MAX MARKS: 30**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. This paper contains **TWO** printed sides.
2. You will lose marks for exceeding word limits.
3. You are allowed to use a dictionary, during the examination.

**I. Read the following excerpt by K Satichadanandan written for the online magazine *Digital Learning*:**

**Translation: Its Role and Scope in India (Mar 1<sup>st</sup> 2011)**

The role of translation can hardly be over-emphasised in a multilingual country like India with 22 languages recognised in the eighth schedule of the constitution, 15 different scripts, hundreds of mother-tongues and thousands of dialects. We can safely say that India would not have been a nation without translation and we keep translating almost unconsciously from our mother-tongues when we converse with people who use a language different from ours.

Our first writers too were translators. Indian literature is founded on the free translations and adaptations of epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata. Up to the nineteenth century our literature consisted only of translations, adaptations, interpretations and retellings. Translations of literary works as well as knowledge-texts: discourses on medicine, astronomy, metallurgy, travel, ship-building, architecture, philosophy, religion and poetics from Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit, Persian and Arabic had kept our cultural scene vibrant and enriched our awareness of the world for long. Most of our ancient writers were multilingual: Kalidasa's Shakuntala has Sanskrit and Prakrit; poets like Vidyapati, Kabir, Meerabai, Guru Nanak, Namdev and others each composed their songs and poems in more than one language.

Translation has helped knit India together as a nation throughout her history. It brought, and still brings languages closer to one another and introduces to one another diverse modes of imagination and perception and various regional cultures thus linking lands and communities together. Ideas and concepts like 'Indian literature', 'Indian culture', 'Indian philosophy' and 'Indian knowledge systems' would have been impossible in the absence of translations with their natural integrationist mission.

Translation also plays a role in extending the scope of language and reframing the boundaries of the sayable. New terms and coinages necessitated by translation create new vocabulary and contribute to greater expressibility. One thus learns not only to understand foreign literature and philosophy through the mother-tongue, but also to speak about modern knowledge, from quantum physics to nano-technology and computer-science to molecular biology in the regional language.