

## DSE – II

### Short questions

1. Who is the protagonist of the novel, and what is his name?
2. What is the main event that sets the plot of the novel in motion?
3. How does Meursault react to his mother's death?
4. Where is the novel "A Bend in the River" primarily set?
5. Who is the protagonist of the story, and what is his background?
6. What is the central conflict or dilemma faced by the protagonist, Grant?
7. Describe the relationship between Grant and his wife, Fiona.
8. What does the bear symbolize in the story?
9. What is the central theme of "Tonight I Can Write" by Pablo Neruda?
10. What is the significance of the line "Tonight I can write the saddest lines" in the poem?
11. What emotions and thoughts are conveyed in the closing lines of the poem?
12. What is the role of nature and natural elements in the poem?
13. What is the significance of the contrast between "going" and "staying" in the poem?
14. How does the poem address the concept of time and its passing?
15. What is the mood or tone of the poem, between "going and staying"?
16. What is the subject matter of Octavio Paz's poem "Motion"?
17. How does the poem explore the idea of motion and change?
18. What is the significance of the poem's title 'Motion' in relation to its content?
19. What is the outcome of Meursault's trial?
20. What is the significance of Ferdinand, the revolutionary leader?

## Long questions

1. Explore the character of Meursault in depth. How does his emotional detachment and indifference to societal norms shape the narrative and the novel's themes?
2. Discuss the themes of existentialism and the absurd in the novel. How does Meursault's worldview align with existentialist philosophy?
3. Consider the role of fate and chance in the story. To what extent does Meursault's life seem governed by random events?
4. Can you describe the setting and historical context of the novel? How does the backdrop of postcolonial Africa influence the characters and their actions?
5. Analyze the protagonist, Salim. How does his character evolve throughout the novel, and what challenges does he face as an Indian shopkeeper in Africa?
6. Consider the symbolism of the river in the novel's title. What does the river represent, and how does it function as a metaphor throughout the narrative?
7. Explore the concept of postcolonialism. How does the novel depict the challenges and complexities of nation-building and independence in Africa?
8. Explore the character of Grant in depth. How does his character evolve throughout the story as he navigates his wife Fiona's memory loss?
9. Discuss the significance of the story's title, "The Bear Came Over the Mountain." How does this title tie into the story's themes and narrative structure?
10. Discuss the role of empathy and compassion in "The Bear Came Over the Mountain". How do the characters' acts of kindness and understanding influence the narrative?
11. Consider the "The Bear Came Over the Mountain's" contemporary relevance, particularly in discussions about aging, memory care, and the challenges faced by caregivers. How does the story contribute to these conversations?
12. Discuss the vivid imagery in the poem, "Tonight I Can Write" such as the "yellow butterflies" and the "silent night." How do these images contribute to the atmosphere and emotional depth of the poem?

13. Analyze the structure of the poem, "Tonight I Can Write" which consists of quatrains with alternating rhyme. How does this structure contribute to the poem's musicality and impact?
14. Explore the role of memory in the poem. How do the speaker's memories of love and loss shape his current feelings and thoughts?
15. Reflect on the idea of writing as a means of catharsis and healing. How does the act of writing help the speaker process his emotions and memories in "Tonight I Can Write"?
16. Analyze the portrayal of love and passion. How does Neruda express the intensity of these emotions, and what imagery and metaphors does he use to convey them in "Every Day You Play"?
17. Consider the identity of the beloved in the poem. Is the poem addressed to a specific person, or is it a more universal expression of love in "Every Day You Play"?
18. Reflect on the significance of the beloved's role in the poem. How does their presence and participation shape the speaker's emotions and experiences in "Every Day You Play"?
19. Analyze the poem's reflection on identity and self-existence. How does the speaker question their own sense of self and reality in "Between Going and Staying"?
20. Explore any figurative language, such as metaphors or similes, used to describe motion and its effects.