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5 SEM TDC ENGH (CBCS) C 11

2023

(November)

ENGLISH

(Core)

Paper : C-11

(**Women's Writing**)

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

UNIT—I

1. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15

- (a) Discuss, with reference to the poems,
I cannot live with you and *I'm "wife"—I've
finished that*, the difference between the
conception of gender and identity.

(2)

(b) How do the themes of mental anguish, identity crisis and the struggle for autonomy find reflection in Sylvia Plath's poems, *Daddy* and *Lady Lazarus*?

(c) Examine the significance of the titles of Eunice de Souza's poems, *Advice to Women* and *Bequest* with relation to the traditionally prescribed notions of femininity.

2. Answer briefly any one of the following questions : 5

(a) "I'm Czar—I'm 'woman' now—
It's safer so—"

Why does Emily Dickinson consider the status of being a woman to be a safe status?

(b) How does the speaker in *Lady Lazarus* compare herself to the Biblical figure of Lazarus?

(3)

(c) What is the message or advice that the poet conveys in the poem, *Advice to Women*?

UNIT—II

3. Answer any one of the following questions : 15

(a) How does the structure of *The Color Purple* with the epistolary format and shifting perspectives between Celie and Nettie, contribute to the development of themes and characters in the novel?

(b) Discuss the title of the novel, *The Color Purple* with regards to racial majorities and minorities in America.

(c) Analyse how Celie's letters to God are similar to the African-American slave narratives collected in the 1930s.

4. Answer briefly any one of the following questions : 5

(a) Why do the Olinka not identify with Samuel, Corrine and Nettie on the basis of race?

(4)

- (b) Discuss the symbolic relevance of quilt and quilting in the novel, *The Color Purple*.
- (c) Give a character sketch of Celie.

UNIT—III

5. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15

- (a) How does the protagonist's descent into madness in *The Yellow Wallpaper* mirror the broader societal attitudes towards women's physical and mental health during the era?
- (b) How does *The Yellow Wallpaper* illustrate the difference between male and female characters in the story and their attitudes towards the protagonist's condition?

(5)

- (c) Analyse how Mahasweta Devi reimagines and reinterprets the character of Draupadi in the short story, *Draupadi*.
- (d) Examine the ways in which *Draupadi* reflects on Mahasweta Devi's concerns about societal issues and caste oppression.
6. Answer briefly any *one* of the following questions : 5
- (a) What is the connection between the narrator's mental state and the deteriorating wallpaper?
- (b) What is the significance of the yellow wallpaper in the short story, *The Yellow Wallpaper*?
- (c) What is the significance of the character Dopdi in the short story, *Draupadi*?
- (d) What does Dopdi's nakedness signify in the story?

(6)

UNIT—IV

7. Answer any one of the following questions : 15

- (a) How does Mary Wollstonecraft illustrate that the writings in circulation contribute to the myth of male superiority and female weakness?
- (b) Discuss how Pandita Ramabai received a unique education despite the absence of school for girls.
- (c) Elaborate how marriage acts as a major change in a woman's life with reference to Rassundari Devi's autobiography, *Aamar Jiban*.

8. Answer briefly any one of the following questions : 5

- (a) What does Wollstonecraft have to say about Jean-Jacques Rousseau?

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(Continued)

(7)

(b) Briefly discuss the event that led to Ramabai's loss of faith in Hindu religious practices.

(c) Describe Rassundari Devi's imagery of a sacrificial goat being led to sacrifice.

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