

3 (Sem-5/CBCS) ENG HC 2

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(Held in 2022)

ENGLISH

Paper : ENG-HC-5026

(**Women's Writing**)

(Honours Core)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

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

1. Answer the following/Fill in the blanks :

1×10=10

- (a) When was *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* published?
- (b) Who is Bertha's husband in the story, *Bliss*?
- (c) Is Senanayak the oppressor of Draupadi? Answer yes or no.
- (d) Whom does Adrienne Rich address as 'my fierce half brother'?
- (e) "A man in black with a _____ look."

- (f) What is there in every Catholic home according to the poem, *Bequest*?
- (g) What does 'the otherness of lovers' mean in the poem, *Advice to Women*?
- (h) According to Wollstonecraft, "the perfection of our nature and capability of happiness must be estimated" by what?
- (i) How did Kuhila Bai's son die in the story, *Celebration*?
- (j) "And I a _____ woman."

2. Answer any *five* of the following questions :

2×5=10

- (a) Why does Rassundari Devi compare herself to a fish caught in the net?
- (b) Why does Kuhila Bai feel closest to the second Bengali housewife? How is she different from Kuhila Bai?
- (c) What is Plath's ambivalent relationship with her father?
- (d) Why does the speaker smile 'endlessly and vacuously' in the poem, *Bequest*?

- (e) What bothers Celie about her father's second wife?
- (f) How did Dopdi and Dulna escape during the 'Operation Bakuli'?
- (g) How does Adrienne Rich change her view regarding Orion over the course of time?

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

5×4=20

(a) What role did religion play in the life of Rassundari Devi?

(b) Critically comment on the following lines :

That stare of perpetual surprise
in those great green eyes
will teach you
to die alone.

(c) How, according to Wollstonecraft, did the writings in circulation contribute to the myth of male supremacy and female weakness?

(d) How does Plath's 'Electra' complex come through in the poem, *Daddy*?

- (e) Narrate, in your own words, Celie's response after the discovery of all the letters sent by her sister.
- (f) Critically comment on the character of Kuhila Bai in the story, *Celebration*.

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

10×4=40

- (a) "Gender is a social construct." Explain with reference to *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*.
- (b) "In *Draupadi*, Mahasweta Devi uses many different voices, yet the subaltern thrust of the narrative stands out." Discuss.
- (c) Comment critically on the title of *The Colour Purple*.
- (d) Why does Plath use holocaust imagery? Do they underplay Lady Lazarus's pain?
- (e) "Rassundari Devi's transgressive desires are at the centre of her life narration." Discuss.
- (f) Comment on the narrative technique that Katherine Mansfield uses in the story, *Bliss*.

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