

3 (Sem-5/CBCS) ENG HC 2

2021

(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."

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(Turn Over)

C 1

(2)

- (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*?

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(3)

- (e) What bothers *Celia* about her father's second wife?
- (f) How did Dopei 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*?

(4)

- (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 Kuhlai 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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