2023

Jawaharlal Nehru College Library
Estd.-1964
Boko, Dist. Kamrup

ENGLISH

(Honours Core)

Paper : ENG–HC–5026

(Women's Writing)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer the following as directed : 1×10=10

(a) Whom does the speaker address as "my genius, you my cast-iron Viking"?

(b) Who is Celie's husband in *The Color Purple*?

(c) "O You—Not God but a _____."

(Fill in the blank)

(d) What will the 'great green eyes' of cats teach women?

(e) Who is Bertha's husband in the story, *Bliss*?

(f) Who is Surja Sahu?

(g) To what does the speaker compare her skin in the poem, *Lady Lazarus*?

(h) According to Mary Wollstonecraft, what do most men use reason for?

(i) When was the first part of Rassundari Devi's *Aamar Jiban* published?

(j) What was the name of Harpo's wife in *The Color Purple*?

2. Answer the following questions : 2×5=10

(a) Why does Celie address her letters to God in *The Color Purple*?

(b) What is the significance of Reason and Education in Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*?

(c) How does the speaker in Plath's *Daddy* convey her conflicting emotions towards her father?

(d) What does Orion symbolize in Adrienne Rich's poem?

(e) After the death of her husband, how did Kuhila Bai manage to survive with her son?

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 5×4=20

(a) How does the speaker view life and death in the poem, *Lady Lazarus*?

(b) How does Adrienne Rich explore the themes of identity and relationship in the poem, *Orion*?

(c) Why do prayers have an important effect in the early life of Rassundari Devi?

(d) Critically evaluate Kuhila Bai's role in the story, *Celebration*.

(e) What is the significance of Nettie's letters in the novel, *The Color Purple*?

(f) Why does the speaker bequeath her heart in the poem, *Bequest*?

(g) What is the significance of the following lines in Mahasweta Devi's *Draupadi*? "the object of your search, Dopdi Mehjen. You asked them to make me. Don't you want to see how they made me?"

How does Dopdi assert her resistance?

(h) Comment on the otherness of women in Eunice de Souza's poem, *Advice to Women*.

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 10×4=40

(a) Would you consider Sylvia Plath's *Daddy* to be an expression against the voice of patriarchy? Comment critically.

(b) Examine the themes of sisterhood and empowerment in *The Color Purple*.

(c) "*Bliss* is underpinned by dramatic irony." Analyze the story, *Bliss* in the light of the statement given. How does the title create a paradox in the story?

(d) How does Sylvia Plath's use of the Holocaust as a metaphor in *Daddy* and *Lady Lazarus* relate to her exploration of self-identity?

(e) Discuss Mahasweta Devi's short story, *Draupadi* as a portrayal of subaltern resistance.

(f) How does *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* by Mary Wollstonecraft challenge conventional gender norms? Answer with reference to the chapters prescribed.

(g) What is the theme of the poem, *Bequest* by Eunice de Souza?

(h) Critically comment on the character of Bertha.

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