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3 (Sem - 5/CBCS) ENG HC 2

2025

ENGLISH

(Honours Core)

Paper : ENG - HC - 5026

(Women's Writing)

Full Marks : 80

Time : Three hours

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

1. Answer the following/Fill in the blanks :
1×10=10

- (a) "And I a _____ woman."
- (b) How did Kuhila Bai's son die in the story, *Celebration*?
- (c) According to Wollstonecraft, "the perfection of our nature and capability of happiness must be estimated" by what?
- (d) What does 'the otherness of lovers' mean in the poem, *Advice to Women*?

- (e) What is there in every Catholic home according to the poem, *Bequest*?
- (f) "A man in black with a _____ look."
- (g) Whom does Adrienne Rich address as 'my fierce half brother'?
- (h) Is Senanayak the oppressor of Draupadi? Answer yes or no.
- (i) Who is Bertha's husband in the story, *Bliss*?
- (j) When was *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* published?

2. Answer **any five** of the following questions :
2×5=10

- (a) How does Adrienne Rich change her view regarding Orion over the course of time?
- (b) How did Dopdi and Dulna escape during the 'Operation Bakuli'?
- (c) What bothers Celie about her father's second wife?
- (d) Why does the speaker smile 'endlessly and vacuously' in the poem, *Bequest*?
- (e) What is Plath's ambivalent relationship with her father?

- (f) Why does Kuhila Bai feel closest to the second Bengali housewife? How is she different from Kuhila Bai?
- (g) Why does Rassundari Devi compare herself to a fish caught in the net?

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

- (a) Critically comment on the character of Kuhila Bai in the story, *Celebration*.
- (b) Narrate, in your own words, Celie's response after the discovery of all the letters sent by her sister.
- (c) How does Plath's 'Electra' complex come through in the poem, *Daddy*?
- (d) How, according to Wollstonecraft, did the writings in circulation contribute to the myth of male supremacy and female weakness?
- (e) Critically comment on the following lines :
That stare of perpetual surprise
in' those great green eyes
will teach you
to die alone.



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

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

10×4=40

(a) Comment on the narrative technique that Katherine Mansfield uses in the story, *Bliss*.

(b) "Rassundari Devi's transgressive desires are at the centre of her life narration." Discuss.

(c) Why does Plath use holocaust imagery? Do they underplay Lady Lazarus's pain ?

(d) Comment critically on the title of *The Colour Purple*.

(e) "In *Draupadi*, Mahasweta Devi uses many different voices, yet the subaltern thrust of the narrative stands out." Discuss.

(f) "Gender is a social construct." Explain with reference to *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*.



