

B.A. 5TH SEMESTER (HONOURS) EXAMINATION, 2020-21

ENGLISH

Course ID: 50312

Course Code: AH/ENG/502/C-12

Course Title: Women's Writing

Time: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 40

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

Answer the following questions.

1. Answer *any one* of the following questions: 1x10= 10
 - a) Discuss Emily Dickinson's "I Cannot Live With you" as an unconventional love poem.
 - b) How did Plath treat and improvise the biblical narrative of Lazarus in her poem "Lady Lazarus"? Critically discuss.

2. Answer *any one* of the following questions: 1x10= 10
 - a) Explore critically the symbols employed by Charlotte Perkins Stetson in her short story "The Yellow Wallpaper".
 - b) "The Yellow Wallpaper" is a serious critique of society's attitude towards mental illness. Elaborate critically.

3. Answer *any one* of the following questions: 1x10= 10
 - a) How far is the title of Katherine Mansfield's "Bliss" justified? Discuss.
 - b) How does Mahashweta Devi rewrite myth and history in her story "Draupadi"? Discuss.

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

5x2= 10

- a) What do the “recess” and the “ring” signify in Dickinson’s “Because I Could Not Stop for Death”?
- b) “An engine, an engine/ Chuffing me off like a Jew”— Comment briefly.
- c) In what context did the speaker-poet refer to the expression “peanut crunching crowd”?
- d) “Cats return to their litter trays/ when they need to”— Comment briefly.
- e) “Don’t cuss out of the window/ at their enemies”— Briefly contextualize.
- f) “You see he does not believe I am sick”— Who is referred to as “he”? Which sickness is being talked about?
- g) Why did the narrator in “The Yellow Wallpaper” prefer the room downstairs initially?
- h) “Behind that outside pattern the dim shape gets clearer every day”— Comment on the “shape”.
- i) How can you interpret the postures of the “creeping”, “crawling” woman?
- j) “It makes me think of English places that you read about...”— Why did the narrator in “The Yellow Wallpaper” say so?
