

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2004 – 05 & thereafter)

SUBJECT CODE: EL/MC/FN54

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2009
BRANCH XII – ENGLISH
FIFTH SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR – CORE
PAPER : FICTION - I
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS : 100

SECTION - A

I Write briefly on any Four of the following (5 x 4 = 20)

1. Jane Austen's Comedy of Manners
2. Theme of humanitarianism in the novels of Dickens.
3. George Eliot and the provincial novel
4. Use of irony in the novels of Jane Austen.
5. The impact of Darwin's philosophy on the religious beliefs of the Victorian Age.
6. The narrative technique used in *The Mill on the Floss*.

SECTION - B

II Answer the following in about 500 words. (3 x 20 = 60)

1. a) Jane Austen's precision and economy, her knowledge of the world she wrote about, and her wisdom in using that world alone for her subject – all these factors account for her success as a novelist. Illustrate
or
b). Does Jane Austen conform to the popular expectation of the role of women in the society of her time ? Justify your answer.
2. a) How does George Eliot treat the theme of Victorian morality in *The Mill on the Floss*.
or
b) Sketch the childhood of Maggie and Tom
3. a) “‘Dickens’ women characters are ineffective, except where they are either eccentric or disagreeable.” Examine this statement with reference to the women characters in *Great Expectations*.
or
b) What aspect of Victorian life does Dickens reveal through the portrait of Magwitch ?

III Attempt an analysis of any ONE of the following passages:**(1 x 20 = 20)**

“We will not quarrel for the greater share of blame annexed to that evening,” said Elizabeth. “The conduct of neither, if strictly examined, will be irreproachable: but since then, we have both, I hope, improved in civility.”

“I cannot be so easily reconciled to myself. The recollection of what I then said, of my conduct, my manners, my expressions during the whole of it, is now, and has been many months, inexpressibly painful to me. Your reproof, so well applied, I shall never forget: ‘had you behaved in a more gentleman-like manner,’ Those were your words. You know not, you can scarcely conceive, how they have tortured me;-- though it was sometime, I confess, before I was reasonable enough to allow their justice.”

“I was certainly very far from expecting them to make so strong an impression. I had not the smallest idea of their being ever felt in such a way.”

Or

He presently stood at the door immediately beneath me, smoking his pipe, and Biddy stood there too, quietly talking to him, and I knew that they talked of me, for I heard my name mentioned in an endearing tone by both of them more than once. I would not have listened for more, if I could have heard more: so, I drew away from the window, and sat down in my one chair by the bedside, feeling it very sorrowful and strange that this first night of my bright fortunes should be the loneliest I had ever known.

Looking towards the open window, I saw light wreaths from Joe’s pipe floating there, and I fancied it was like a blessing from Joe---- not obtruded on me or paraded before me, but pervading the air we shared together.: I put my light out, and crept into bed; and it was an uneasy bed now, and I never slept the old sound sleep in it any more.
