

B. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2022
BRANCH XII - ENGLISH
FOURTH SEMESTER

COURSE: ALLIED CORE
TITLE: LITERATURE AND GENDER

TIME: 3 HOURS
MAX.MARKS: 100

SECTION A

I. Answer any two of the following in about 500 words each. (2x20=40)

1. How does Adrienne Rich explore patriarchal oppression of women in “Snapshots of a Daughter-in-law”?
2. Discuss Revathi’s journey of transition in her trans narrative *The Truth about Me*.
3. Critically analyse Shashi Deshpande’s *Small Remedies* with reference to subversion of gender stereotypes.
4. Discuss *Top Girls* as a critique of liberal feminism.

SECTION B

II. Answer any three of the following in about 400 words each. (3x15=45)

5. Discuss gender socialisation with reference to Lady Nijo and Griselda in *Top Girls*.
6. Explain the strategy of ‘re-visioning’, according to Adrienne Rich, in “Snapshots of a Daughter-in-law”.
7. How does “A Fat Black Woman Goes Shopping” engage with the themes of racial and gender discrimination?
8. Attempt a character sketch of Madhu in *Small Remedies*.
9. Comment on the narrative structure of *Top Girls*.

SECTION C

III. Critically analyse the following passage with reference to ideology, theme and technique. (15 marks)

10.

JOYCE I don’t know how you could leave your own child.

MARLENE You were quick enough to take her.

JOYCE What does that mean?

MARLENE You were quick enough to take her.

JOYCE Or what? Have her put in a home? Have some stranger/take her would you rather?

MARLENE You couldn't have one so you took mine.

JOYCE I didn't know that then.

MARLENE Like hell,/ married three years.

JOYCE I didn't know that. Plenty of people/take that long.

MARLENE Well turned out lucky for you, didn't it?

JOYCE Turned out all right for you by the look of you. You'd be getting a few less thousand a year.

MARLENE Not necessarily.

JOYCE You'd be stuck here/like you said.

MARLENE I could have taken her with me.

JOYCE You didn't want to take her with you. It's no good coming back now
Marlene.....
