

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI – 86
(For candidates admitted from the academic year 2023 – 2024)

M. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2023
BRANCH VII - ENGLISH
FIRST SEMESTER

COURSE : POSTGRADUATE CORE
PAPER : LITERATURE AND SUBALTERNITY
SUBJECT CODE : 23EL/PC/LS14
TIME : 3 HOURS **MAX. MARKS: 100**

Q. No.	SECTION A	CO	KL
I	Answer any one of the following in about 250 words. (1x10=10)		
1.	Examine the concept of the subaltern in the context of Spivak’s “Can the Subaltern Speak?”.	1	K1
2.	Recall the significance of the structure of Nellie Wong’s “My Eyes Follow Them”.		
Q. No. II	SECTION B Answer any one of the following in about 250 words (1x10=10)	CO	KL
3.	Explain the significance of the following lines from “The Bridge Poem”: “I must be the bridge to nowhere, But my true self, And then I will be useful”.	2	K2
4.	Comment on the symbols in Audre Lorde’s poem “Power”.		
Q. No. III	SECTION C Answer any one of the following in about 500 words. (1x20=20)	CO	KL
5.	Interpret James Charlton’s views on disability oppression.	3	K3
6.	Demonstrate how Yashwant Vaghela depicts the status of an untouchable in India.		
IV	Answer any one of the following in about 500 words. (1x20=20)		
7.	Comment on Bama’s <i>Sangati</i> as a Dalit feminist narrative.	4	K4
8.	Examine Mahasweta Devi’s “Rudali” as a study of class, caste and gender oppression.		
Q. No.	SECTION D	CO	KL
	Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow. O Babsaheb – Mangal Rathod Twentieth march, nineteen twenty seven As you drank deeply. From your cupped hands The water of Chavdar lake,* We learned That united We can win back our human rights. If the earth belongs to us How can the lake not be ours? Why do they keep us away from our lake?		

	<p>As the questions baffled us Our eyes suddenly opened! A lake open to dogs, cats, cattle Even to swine Is forbidden to human beings Who look every bit human! We did not know, Who first set us apart. Who was it The builder of the wall That separated man from man? As you drank deeply From your cupped hand The water of Chavdar lake , The wall broke down, A whole community, Like the water balked by a dam, Rushed out to join the ocean of humanity! A new age was born. O Babasaheb, The first sip of water you drank</p> <p>Quenched our thirst of ages. We learned the taste of life. We can never forget you, For your memory lingers On each step we ascend, O Babasaheb!</p> <p>* On 20th March 1927, Dr B.R. Ambedkar led the Chavdar Tale Satyagraha to dalits to use water in a public tank in Mahad, Maharashtra.</p>		
V	Based on your reading of the poem, answer any one of the following in about 500 words. (1x20=20)	5	5
9.	Analyse the image of the wall in the poem.		
10	Critically discuss the juxtaposition of the human and the animal in the poem.		
VI	Based on your reading of the poem, answer any one of the following in about 500 words. (1x20=20)	5	6
11.	Evaluate the poem in terms of its expression of subaltern protest.		
12.	Assess the representation of the conversion of marginalized positions into spaces of empowerment as recorded in the poem.		
