

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

B. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2024
ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS
THIRD SEMESTER

COURSE : **MAJOR CORE**
PAPER : **LITERATURE OF THE BRITISH ISLES**
SUBJECT CODE : **23CE/MC/BL34**
TIME : **3 HOURS** **MAX. MARKS: 100**

SECTION A				
Q. No.	Answer any four questions in about 100 words each.	(4 x 5 = 20)	CO	KL
1	What is the Renaissance period in English literature?		CO1	K1
2	What is the central theme of Spenser's "Sonnet 75"?			
3	Which character serves as Crusoe's companion on the island?			
4	What is the metaphor that Blake uses in Tom Dacre's dream to symbolise death?			
5	In which literary period does Wordsworth's poem "Composed upon Westminster Bridge" belong and what defines that period?			
SECTION B				
Q. No.	Answer any two questions in about 200 words each.	(2 x 10 = 20)	CO	KL
6	What does the title of Herbert's poem "The Collar" signify?		CO2	K2
7	Discuss Pinter's <i>The Birthday Party</i> as a comedy of menace.			
8	Describe the significance of the final scene in <i>Riders to the Sea</i> .			
SECTION C				
Q. No.	Answer any one question in about 300 words.	(1 x 20 = 20)	CO	KL
9	Illustrate how Pope uses epic conventions in Canto 1 of <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> to satirise the society of his time.		CO3	K3
10	How does the setting in <i>The Remains of the Day</i> contribute to the themes of nostalgia and longing?			
SECTION D				
Q. No.	Answer any one question in about 300 words.	(1 x 20 = 20)	CO	KL
11	Comment on the portrayal of Jane Eyre as an unconventional heroine.		CO4	K4
12	How does Ian Russell McEwan's <i>On Chesil Beach</i> critique the societal expectations of sexuality and marriage?			
SECTION E				
Q. No.	Choose any one of the following extracts and answer the questions that follow.	(1 x 20 = 20)	CO	KL
13	It had been hard for him that spake it to have put more truth and untruth together in few words, than in that speech. Whatsoever is delighted in solitude, is either a wild beast or a god. For it is most true, that a natural and secret hatred, and aversation towards society, in any man, hath somewhat of the savage beast; but it is most untrue, that it should have any character at all, of the divine nature; except it proceed, not out of a pleasure in solitude, but out of a love and desire to sequester a man's self, for a higher conversation:			

	<p>such as is found to have been falsely and feignedly in some of the heathen; as Epimenides the Candian, Numa the Roman, Empedocles the Sicilian, and Apollonius of Tyana; and truly and really, in divers of the ancient hermits and holy fathers of the church. But little do men perceive what solitude is, and how far it extendeth. For a crowd is not company; and faces are but a gallery of pictures; and talk but a tinkling cymbal, where there is no love. The Latin adage meeteth with it a little: Magna civitas, magna solitudo; because in a great town friends are scattered; so that there is not that fellowship, for the most part, which is in less neighborhoods. But we may go further, and affirm most truly, that it is a mere and miserable solitude to want true friends; without which the world is but a wilderness; and even in this sense also of solitude, whosoever in the frame of his nature and affections, is unfit for friendship, he taketh it of the beast, and not from humanity.</p> <p>a) Examine the author’s view on the relationship between solitude and friendship.</p> <p>b) Write a paragraph that argues against the author’s assertion that solitude can indicate a “savage beast” nature.</p>	CO5 CO5	K5 K6
14	<p>And voices in me said, If you were a man You would take a stick and break him now, and finish him off.</p> <p>But must I confess how I liked him, How glad I was he had come like a guest in quiet, to drink at my water-trough And depart peaceful, pacified, and thankless, Into the burning bowels of this earth?</p> <p>Was it cowardice, that I dared not kill him? Was it perversity, that I longed to talk to him? Was it humility, to feel so honoured? I felt so honoured.</p> <p>And yet those voices: <i>If you were not afraid, you would kill him!</i></p> <p>And truly I was afraid, I was most afraid, But even so, honoured still more That he should seek my hospitality From out the dark door of the secret earth.</p> <p>a) How effectively does the poet convey the speaker’s struggle between fear and honour? Provide examples from the extract to support your answer.</p> <p>b) Suggest an alternate ending for the poem. How would it change the theme?</p>	CO5 CO5	K5 K6