

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: ALLIED CORE

TITLE OF THE COURSE: LITERATURE AND IDEAS

COURSE CODE: 23CE/AC/LI35

TIME: 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

| SECTION A | | | |
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| I | Answer any four of the following questions in about 100 words (4x5=20) | CO | CL |
| 1 | Recall the relationship between thesis, antithesis, and synthesis in the Hegelian Triad. | CO1 | K1 |
| 2 | Write briefly about Carl Jung’s concept of Collective Unconscious. | CO1 | K1 |
| 3 | Identify the existentialist ideas conveyed through Ted Hughes’, “Tiger Psalm”. | CO1 | K1 |
| 4 | Describe Rousseau’s theory of Social Contract. | CO1 | K1 |
| 5 | Show your understanding of Feminine, Feminist, Female as three primary subtypes identified by Toril Moi. | | |
| SECTION B | | | |
| II | Answer any two of the following questions in about 200 words (2x10=20) | CO | CL |
| 6 | Explain the distinction between noumena and phenomena in Kantian philosophy and the ways in which this differentiation impacts our understanding of reality. | CO2 | K2 |
| 7 | Discuss the relationship between base and superstructure in Marxist theory as a framework that influences our understanding of societal development and change. | CO2 | K2 |
| 8 | Summarise the main thematic conflict in <i>Hard Times</i> . | CO2 | K2 |
| SECTION C | | | |
| III | Answer any one of the following questions in about 300 words (1x20=20) | CO | CL |
| 9 | Show how according to bell hooks can feminism be a movement to end sexist oppression. | CO3 | K3 |
| 10 | Demonstrate how the concepts of Absolute Consciousness and Self-Consciousness differ in Hegelian philosophy. | | |
| SECTION D | | | |
| IV | Answer any one of the following questions in about 300 words (1x20=20) | CO | CL |
| 11 | Distinguish between the Apollonian and Dionysian principles in terms of their representations in art and culture. | CO4 | K4 |
| 12 | Analyze Kafka’s <i>Metamorphosis</i> as an artistic expression of existentialist thought. | CO4 | K4 |

| V | SECTION E Answer any one of the following questions in about 300 words (1x20=20) | CO | CL |
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| 13 | <p>Attempt a critical reading of the following poem and answer the questions below:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Power by Audre Lorde</i></p> <p>The difference between poetry and rhetoric is being ready to kill yourself instead of your children.</p> <p>I am trapped on a desert of raw gunshot wounds and a dead child dragging his shattered black face off the edge of my sleep blood from his punctured cheeks and shoulders is the only liquid for miles and my stomach churns at the imagined taste while my mouth splits into dry lips without loyalty or reason thirsting for the wetness of his blood as it sinks into the whiteness of the desert where I am lost without imagery or magic trying to make power out of hatred and destruction trying to heal my dying son with kisses only the sun will bleach his bones quicker.</p> <p>A policeman who shot down a ten year old in Queens stood over the boy with his cop shoes in childish blood and a voice said “Die you little motherfucker” and there are tapes to prove it. At his trial this policeman said in his own defense “I didn't notice the size nor nothing else only the color”. And there are tapes to prove that, too.</p> <p>Today that 37 year old white man with 13 years of police forcing was set free by eleven white men who said they were satisfied justice had been done and one Black Woman who said “They convinced me” meaning they had dragged her 4'10" black Woman's frame over the hot coals of four centuries of white male approval until she let go the first real power she ever had and lined her own womb with cement to make a graveyard for our children.</p> | CO5 | K5 |

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| | <p>I have not been able to touch the destruction within me. But unless I learn to use the difference between poetry and rhetoric my power too will run corrupt as poisonous mold or lie limp and useless as an unconnected wire and one day I will take my teenaged plug and connect it to the nearest socket raping an 85 year old white woman who is somebody's mother and as I beat her senseless and set a torch to her bed a greek chorus will be singing in 3/4 time “Poor thing. She never hurt a soul. What beasts they are.”</p> <p>(a) Examine the theme of racial violence in the poem. (10 marks)</p> <p>(b) Analyse the poem using Frederick Hegel’s concept of master-slave dialectic. (10 marks)</p> | | |
| 14 | <p>Attempt a critical reading of the following poem and answer the questions below:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Still I Rise</i> by Maya Angelou</p> <p>You may write me down in history With your bitter, twisted lies, You may tread me in the very dirt But still, like dust, I’ll rise.</p> <p>Does my sassiness upset you? Why are you beset with gloom? ‘Cause I walk like I’ve got oil wells Pumping in my living room.</p> <p>Just like moons and like suns, With the certainty of tides, Just like hopes springing high, Still I’ll rise.</p> <p>Did you want to see me broken? Bowed head and lowered eyes? Shoulders falling down like teardrops. Weakened by my soulful cries.</p> <p>Does my haughtiness offend you? Don’t you take it awful hard ‘Cause I laugh like I’ve got gold mines Diggin’ in my own back yard.</p> | CO5 | K6 |

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| | <p>You may shoot me with your words, You may cut me with your eyes, You may kill me with your hatefulness, But still, like air, I'll rise.</p> <p>Does my sexiness upset you? Does it come as a surprise That I dance like I've got diamonds At the meeting of my thighs?</p> <p>Out of the huts of history's shame I rise Up from a past that's rooted in pain I rise I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide, Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.</p> <p>Leaving behind nights of terror and fear I rise Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear I rise Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave. I rise I rise I rise.</p> <p>(a) Elucidate the central arguments of the poem. (10 marks)</p> <p>(b) Analyse the poem using any of the concepts prescribed for your study. (10 marks)</p> | | |
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