

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2023 - 2024)

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2026
ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS
SIXTH SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR CORE
COURSE TITLE : INDIAN LITERATURES II
COURSE CODE : 23CE/MC/IL65
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION A		CO	KL
I. Answer any four of the following in about 150 words each. (4x5=20)			
1.	Describe the poet's use of nature imagery in "The Annunciation".	1	1
2.	According to Ranjit Hoskote, what is the important shift that has taken place in the sociology of Indian poetry in English with reference to readership?		
3.	Explain any one of the key issues of modern life depicted in Mahesh Dattani's <i>The Big Fat City</i> .		
4.	What does the stare shared between the human child and the monkey child in Sujatha Bhatt's poem "The Stare" indicate?		
5.	In R.K.Narayan's essay "Fifteen years", why does the English language claim that India is its country?		
SECTION B		CO	KL
II. Answer any two of the following in about 250 words each. (2x10=20)			
6.	How does the chapter "Honour" bring to light the silenced narratives of women during the 1947 Partition?	2	2
7.	Discuss the depiction of the experiences of Indian Jews using confessional mode of writing in the poem "Background Casually".		
8.	Inspect "Burn this Sari" as a protest poem that documents the struggle for female autonomy.		
SECTION C		CO	KL
III. Answer any one of the following in about 350 words. (1x20=20)			
9.	Using the aesthetics of Dalit literature conceptualised by Sharankumar Limbale, analyse any of the prescribed text.	3	3
10.	Illustrate how Aravind Adiga's <i>The White Tiger</i> satirises the socio-economic disparities that exist in modern India.		
SECTION D		CO	KL
IV. Answer any one of the following in about 350 words. (1x20=20)			
11.	Comment on the deliberate choice of a nameless society in the poem "The Land of Half-Humans".	4	4
12.	"Many poets of the post-independence period have successfully combined the private and the public functions of a poet", observes Ayyappa Paniker. Evaluate this statement with reference to Kaifi Azmi's poem "The Last Night".		

SECTION E		
V. Attempt a critical reading of one of the following excerpts and answer the questions given below.	CO	KL
<p style="text-align: right;">(1x20=20)</p> <p>13. Excerpt from <i>Sarpa Satra</i> by Arun Kolatkar</p> <p>Can you think of a worse insult to Agni, the sacred sacrificial fire, whose pleasant duty it is to carry gifts, obligations, supplications and praise offered lovingly by man to God (or the gods concerned) and bring back their blessings, than to give him the dirty job of a common assassin, butcher or a mass murderer, to employ him to exterminate an entire species systematically and in cold blood in violation of all the known laws of gods and man, to offer hecatombs to – what! – one man’s twisted logic and madness? This snake sacrifice, this mockery, this grotesque parody of the institution of yajnya has got to stop. but all those who should have realised this are on the payroll of Janamejaya and will do nothing to spoil his party. The very people Who one would’ve thought had enough sense of decency to hang their heads in shame at what’s going on turn out to be the chief actors in this theatre of the macabre</p>		

	a. How does power operate through religion in Janamejaya's misuse of "yajnya"?	5	5, 6
	b. Present the contemporary relevance of Kolatkar's retelling.		
<p>14. Excerpt from <i>Naarkalikkarar</i> by Na. Muthuswamy</p> <p>Next one: What? What big mistake did we make?</p> <p>Onlooker (<i>getting interested again</i>): But weren't we talking only about raising slogans?</p> <p>One man: Yes.</p> <p>Onlooker: Then why did you start talking about nipping in the bud, rooting out completely, and pouring acid? How can you think about doing something, forgetting slogan-shouting? Slogan-shouting and doing something. They are different from each other. Don't confuse the two.</p> <p>Another man: Yes, yes, don't confuse one with the other.</p> <p>Next man: We'll shout slogans; we'll begin at once.</p> <p>The one beside him: At once, at once.</p> <p>Next man: At once, don't think, now itself, at once, let us shout slogans.</p> <p>One man: We could do something, and also raise slogans. We'll shout slogans for doing something and do something for shouting slogans.</p> <p>Next man (<i>quoting Bharathiyar</i>): <i>Sethuvai meduyarthi veethi samaipom.</i></p> <p>Another man (continues): <i>Velli panimalaiyin meethulavuvom.</i></p> <p>Next one: There is an ideal behind every slogan.</p> <p>Another one: All ideals are mere slogans.</p> <p>One man: Okay, okay; come to the point. There is no meaning in just babbling. Against what shall we shout, 'down, down'? It won't do just to shout, 'down, down'. Will it?</p> <p>Next one: Won't do, won't do.</p> <p>Another one: Won't do at all.</p> <p>Onlooker (<i>laughing aloud</i>): No point spitting at the wind; we need a face to spit on.</p> <p>One man: If we spit on the reverse current, the face we spit on will be ours.</p> <p>Next one: We should spit with the wind; there must be a face on the other side.</p> <p>Another one: Then do we shout only 'down, down'?</p> <p>The next one: Our face...?</p> <p>Onlooker: Let's divide ourselves into two gangs – the Card Gang and the Marble Gang.</p> <p>One man: Sabash, that seems to be a solution!</p> <p>Next man: There seems to be a solution in the air.</p> <p>Another man: Divide ourselves and then?</p> <p>Onlooker: Let Card Gang shout 'Down, down, Marble Gang!' Let Marble Gang shout 'Down, down, Card Gang!'</p> <p>Card Gang: We don't agree to this.</p> <p>Marble Gang: We too don't agree.</p> <p>One man: Is there no solution to this problem?</p> <p>Onlooker: There is, there is – don't be hasty. If there is a problem, won't there be a solution?</p> <p>Another man: What is this solution?</p> <p>Onlooker: We should agree for mediation. Without mediation how can there be a solution? Let the Card Gang shout 'Long live' slogan for themselves and the Marble Gang for themselves.</p> <p>One man: Not a bad idea! It seems to be a fair deal to me.</p> <p>Onlooker: No loss to anyone if 'down, down' is balanced by 'long live'.</p> <p>Next man: That will be like a game too.</p>			
	a. Examine the implication of the act of slogan-shouting.	5	5, 6
	b. How does the division of the Card Gang and Marble Gang reflect the political reality of the nation?		