

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI 600086
(For candidates admitted during the Academic Year 2023-24 and thereafter)

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION APRIL 2026
BRANCH XII – ENGLISH
FOURTH SEMESTER

COURSE : ALLIED CORE
COURSE TITLE : LITERATURE AND GENDER
SUBJECT CODE : 23EL/AC/GD45
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

Q. No.	SECTION A	CO	KL
	Answer any four of the following questions in 75 words each. (4x5=20)	1	1
1.	Write a brief note on how Western ideas influence feminist debates in India, with special reference to Mary E. John’s essay.		
2.	Explain the significance of the line “A thinking woman sleeps with monsters” in “Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law” by Adrienne Rich.		
3.	Identify the significance of the dinner party in Caryl Churchill’s <i>Top Girls</i> .		
4.	State the challenges faced by Revathi as a <i>hijra</i> in her autobiographical narration.		
5.	How does Savitribai in <i>Small Remedies</i> challenge traditional gender stereotypes?		
Q. No.	SECTION B	CO	KL
	Answer any two of the following questions in 150 words each. (2x10=20)	2	2
6.	Describe Grace Nichols’ poem “The Fat Black Woman Goes Shopping” as a satire on stereotyping.		
7.	How do gender roles and personal choices shape Madhu’s journey in <i>Small Remedies</i> ?		
8.	Discuss the tension between career and personal life in <i>Top Girls</i> by Caryl Churchill.		
Q. No.	SECTION C	CO	KL
	Answer any one of the following questions in 250 words. (1x20=20)	3	3
9.	How does the intersection of racial and gendered identities produce double marginalisation in Grace Nichols’ poem?		

10.	Illustrate the significance of the title “Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law” by Adrienne Rich.		
Q. No.	SECTION D	CO	KL
	Answer any one of the following questions in 250 words (1x20=20)	4	4
11.	Analyse Woolf’s discussion of the historical exclusion of women from education and literary opportunities in Chapter 1 of <i>A Room of One’s Own</i> .		
12.	Examine how the perpetuation of heteronormative ideals affects societal acceptance of diverse gender identities, with reference to Revathi’s autobiography <i>The Truth About Me: A Hijra Life Story</i> .		
Q. No.	SECTION E	CO	KL
	Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow. Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law -Adrienne Rich Banging the coffee-pot into the sink she hears the angels chiding, and looks out past the raked gardens to the sloppy sky. Only a week since They said: Have no patience. The next time it was: Be insatiable. Then: Save yourself; others you cannot save. Sometimes she’s let the tapstream scald her arm, a match burn to her thumbnail, or held her hand above the kettle’s snout right in the woolly steam. They are probably angels, since nothing hurts her anymore, except each morning’s grit blowing into her eyes.		
	Answer any one of the following questions in 150 words. (1x10=10)	5	5
13.	Evaluate the emotional and physical struggles endured by the daughter-in-law in the given extract.		
14.	Examine the significance of the angels’ instructions (“Have no patience,” “Be insatiable,” “Save yourself”) on the daughter-in-law’s actions.		
	Answer any one of the following questions in 150 words. (1x10=10)	5	6
15.	Create a monologue from the daughter-in-law’s perspective, reflecting on how societal expectations shape her emotions and choices.		
16.	Imagine having a conversation with the daughter-in-law from the extract. What would you say to her, and how might she respond?		