

**STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086**  
**(For candidates admitted from the academic year 2010-11)**

**SUBJECT CODE: EL/PC/CL44**

**M. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2012**  
**BRANCH VII – ENGLISH**  
**FOURTH SEMESTER**

**COURSE : CORE**  
**PAPER : CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE**  
**TIME : 3 HOURS**

**MAX. MARKS: 100**

**Answer any FOUR in about 1000 words each:**

**(25x4=100)**

1. Discuss *The Kite Runner* as a record of Afghanistan's recent history and its ethnic conflicts.
2. How does the personal become the political in Joyce Carol Oates' novel? Discuss with reference to racial identity and personal relationships.
3. Explore the metaphorical implications of Sachi's journey to Hanalei Bay.
4. Discuss travel writing as a socio-political discourse with reference to *In Xanadu?*
5. Critically examine postmodernist features in any one of the texts prescribed.
6. Comment on "The Worship Scar" as a record of the tensions within the Tamil community in Srilanka, especially with reference to religious identities.

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