

**STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086**  
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2004 – 05)

SUBJECT CODE: EL/MC/FN54

**B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2007**  
**BRANCH XII – ENGLISH**  
**FIFTH SEMESTER**

**COURSE : MAJOR – CORE**  
**PAPER : FICTION - I**  
**TIME : 3 HOURS**

**MAX. MARKS : 100**

**SECTION - A**

**I. Write briefly on any FOUR of the following: - (4x5=20)**

1. The impact of Darwinism on the novel.
2. The Gothic novel.
3. Social life as the sphere of fiction in the eighteenth century novel.
4. Realism in the novel.
5. The historical novel.
6. The depiction of women in the nineteenth century novel.

**SECTION – B**

**II. Answer the following in about 500 words each. (3x20=60)**

1. a. How does Jane Austen use irony as a powerful artistic device to ridicule folly, affectation and self-conceit in Pride and Prejudice?  
OR  
b. The central interest of Jane Austen's novel lies in the complications that arise from pride and prejudice. Discuss.
2. a. There is an element of Providence, if not of nemesis in the circumstances surrounding Maggie's end. Do you agree?  
OR  
b. Compare and contrast Philip Wakem and Stephen Guest.
3. a. Consider Estella as a pawn in Miss. Havisham's scheme of vengeance against all men.  
OR  
b. Adversity is the school in which Pip ultimately learns the dignity of labour and the meaning of kindness. Discuss.

**III. Attempt an analysis of any ONE of the following passages. (1x20=20)**  
**A. 'You can hardly doubt the purport of my discourse, however your natural delicacy may lead you to dissemble; my attentions have been too marked to be mistaken. Almost as soon as I entered the house, I singled you out as the companion of my future life. But before I am run away with by my feelings on this subject, perhaps it would be advisable for me to state my reasons for marrying – and moreover for coming into Herfordshire with the design of selecting a wife, as I certainly did.'**

The idea of Collins, with his solemn composure, being run away with by his feelings, made Elizabeth so near laughing that she could not use the short pause he allowed in any attempt to stop him farther, and he continued:

'My reasons for marrying are, first, that I think it a right thing for every clergyman in easy circumstances (like myself) to set the example of matrimony in his parish. Secondly, that I am convinced it will add very greatly to my happiness; and thirdly – which perhaps I ought to have mentioned earlier, that it is the particular advice and recommendation of the very noble lady whom I have the honour of calling patroness. Twice has she condescended to give me her opinion (unasked too!) on this subject.'

B. 'Until you spoke to her the other day, and until I saw in you a looking-glass that showed me what I once felt myself, I did not know what I had done. What have I done! What have I done!' And so again, twenty, fifty times over, what had she done!

'Miss Havisham', I said when her cry had died away, 'You may dismiss me from your mind and conscience. But Estella is a different case, and if you can ever undo any scrap of what you have done amiss in keeping a part of her right nature away from her, it will be better to do that, than to bemoan the past through a hundred years.'

'Yes, yes, I know it. But, Pip – my Dear!' There was an earnest womanly compassion for me in her new affection. 'My dear! Believe this: when she first came to me, I meant to save her from misery like my own. At first, I meant no more.'

'Well, well' said I, 'I hope so.'

'But as she grew, and promised to be very beautiful, I gradually did worse, and with my praises, and with my jewels, and with my teachings, and with this figure of myself always before her, a warning to back and point my lessons, I stole her heart away and put ice in its place.'

'Better,' I could not help saying, 'to have left her a natural heart, even to be bruised or broken.'

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