

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

SUBJECT CODE: EL/MC/SS14

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

COURSE : MAJOR – CORE
PAPER : SHORT STORY
TIME : 3 HOURS **MAX. MARKS : 100**

SECTION - A

I Attempt any TWO. Fix the context of the passages, commenting on plot, characterization, theme, setting and any other technical devices:

(10 x 2 = 20)

1. ‘Let me tell you about the peacock,’ I had said. But what could I have told her? Only that I saw it dancing once, brazenly exhibiting the glory of its fan, the sunlight flecking the blue and green and bronze with a golden dust that dazzled my eyes which made it for me, forever, the most enchanting moment of my life. But I cannot say any of this to these two - my husband and my child. We belong to different species, I am an interloper. I do not belong. I move away from them resolutely.
2. “Who art thou?” said the Giant, and a strange awe fell on him and he knelt before the little child. And the child smiled on Giant and said to him, “You let me play in your garden, to-day you shall come with me to my garden, which is Paradise”.
3. “It sounds pretty rotten”, I said.
“He brought it on himself. After all he’s only got what he deserves.”
“I think on the whole we all get what we deserve,” I said. “But that doesn’t prevent its being rather horrible.”
4. “It is a mistake,” Mrs. Marroner went on, with a hard quietness. She had lost her social bearings somehow, lost her usual keen sense of the proper thing to do. This was not life; this was a nightmare.
“Do you not see? Your letter was put in my envelope and my letter was put in your envelope. Now we understand it.”

II. Answer any TWO of the following in about 500 words:

(20x2=40)

1. Discuss “The Disappearance of Lady Frances Carfax”, as a detective story.
2. Consider R. K. Narayan’s “Father’s Help”, as a study of a child’s attempt to cope in an adult’s world.
3. Discuss the issues raised in Asimov’s “Segregationist”.
4. Read Saki’s “Tobermory” as a satire.

III. Answer any FOUR of the following in about 200 words. (10x4=40)

1. What view of married life does Margaret Atwood project in her story “The Resplendent Quetzal”?
2. “Wasn’t there anywhere in the world where she could have her cry out – at last?” Show how this line sums up Ma Parker’s life.
3. How does Poe depict horror and retribution in “The Tell-Tale Heart”?
4. What does Singer suggest through the title of his story “Gimpel, The Fool”?
5. “Springtime à la Carte” is an illustration of the art of story telling – Elucidate.
6. Consider “A Painful Case”, as an effective portrayal of ‘loneliness’.
