

**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’.

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