

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

SUBJECT CODE: EL/MC/PR54

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2008

BRANCH XII – ENGLISH

FIFTH SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR – CORE

PAPER : PROSE

TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS : 100

SECTION - A

I. Analyse the following passages with reference to context, content, theme, tone and style: (2x15=30)

1. At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to freedom. A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step from the old to the new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation long suppressed finds utterance. (Jawaharlal Nehru: *Tryst with Destiny*)
2. I can write fast enough now. Am I better than I was then? Oh no! one truth discovered, one pang of regret at not being able to express it, is better than all the fluency and flippancy in the world. Would that I could go back to what I then was! Why can we not revive past times as we can revisit old places? (Hazlitt: *My First Acquaintance with Poets*)

SECTION - B

II. Answer any THREE choosing not less than one from each section. (3x10=30)

- A.
1. Bring out the philosophical implications of Bacon's reflections on Ambition.
 2. Show how Robert Lynd uses humour to his advantage in his essay.
 3. Examine aspects of the personal essay in Lamb's *Dream Children*.
 4. Comment on Addison's method of social satire in *Ladies' Head Dress*.
- B.
5. Highlight the oratorical features of Winston Churchill's *On Dunkirk*.
 6. Comment on Adrienne Rich's observations in "*What does a woman need to know*"?
 7. Give your response to Faulkner's comment on what constitutes good writing.
 8. Analyse Burke's argument in his speech.

SECTION - C

III. Answer any two of the following. (2x20=40)

1. Comment on the literary qualities of the Gospel according to St. Luke.
2. Show how Naipaul combines history with literary writing to make for a great reading experience.
3. How does great oratory qualify as great literature?
4. "His legacy is courage, his lesson truth, his weapon love". Show how Louis Fischer's biography keeps Gandhi alive and relevant today.
5. Comment on the essayist's technique of using humour, satire, and personal observations to make a point about human nature.
6. Highlight the common features of varied prose forms.
