

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2015 – 16 and thereafter)

SUBJECT CODE: 15EL/RC/CL105

M.Phil. DEGREE EXAMINATION, FEBRUARY 2018
ENGLISH
FIRST SEMESTER

COURSE : CORE
PAPER : CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE: TEXTS AND CONTEXTS
TIME : 3 HOURS **MAX. MARKS: 100**

Answer any FOUR of the following in about 1200 words each: (4x25=100)

1. How does Umberto Eco regain and retain control over the text *The Mysterious Flame of Queen Loana* he has created in the context of post structuralism and intertextuality?
2. How does *Reading Lolita in Tehran* become a part of the “complex process of self-fashioning” of identity in an oppressive society?
3. “The living utterance” according to Bakhtin, “cannot fail to become an active participant in social dialogue.” Illustrate this statement using Barbara Kingsolver’s novel *Flight Behaviour*.
4. According to Stuart Hall “Cultural identities ... far from being eternally fixed in some essentialised past, and are subject to the continuous play of history, culture and power.” Illustrate this idea using Zadie Smith’s *White Teeth*.
5. According to Aijaz Ahmad “Resistance can always only be personal, micro, and shared only by a small, determinate number of individuals who happen, perchance, to come together, outside the so-called ‘grand narratives’ of class, gender, nation.” Examine how Agha Shahid Ali expresses resistance through his poetry.
6. Ariel Dorfman claimed that her play presented the “core dilemmas” of the present day world that faced “torture”, “egregious abuses of human rights” and “terror to fight and avenge terror.” Examine the core dilemmas explored in the text *Death and the Maiden*.
