31/10/25

TM253447K

Reg. No :.....

Name :.....

MASTER'S DEGREE (C.S.S) EXAMINATION, OCTOBER 2025

2024 ADMISSIONS REGULAR

SEMESTER III - CORE COURSE

EN3C14TM21 - Literature and Gender

Time : 3 Hours **Maximum Weight : 30**

Part A

I. Answer any Eight questions. Each question carries 1 weight **(8x1=8)**

1. Analyse the significance of the combat scene in Vietnam movies according to Susan Jeffords.
2. Illustrate how the institutional sites where Black women construct independent self-definitions reflect the dialectical nature of oppression
3. Evaluate Akka Akka Mahadevi as a defiant spirit who rebelled against prescribed gender roles.
4. Analyse Dharker's poem "Purdah" as an examination of the female subject.
5. Examine how Sylvia Plath's feminist agenda is summed up in the fig tree analogy.
6. Analyse Bapsi Sidhwa's *Ice Candy Man* as a partition narrative.
7. Discuss white beauty as a symbol of dominance in *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.*
8. Discuss the significance of literature in the life of young Maya Angelou.
9. Examine Sara Joseph's portrayal of Manthara in "Black Chinks".
10. State reasons why nationality should be understood not as an "essence" but a contested terrain always 'in process' according to Susie Tharu and K. Lalitha.

Part B

II. Answer any Six questions. Each question carries 2 weight **(6x2=12)**

11. Contrary to Mill's theory, women have had a literature of their own all along. Discuss with reference to Elaine Showalter's essay.
12. Evaluate the idea of "safe spaces" as a necessary condition for African-American women's resistance.
13. Evaluate the poem "An Introduction" as a poem of revolt against the restraints which society has been imposing upon women.
14. Analyse Sapho's poem as a well-structured argument to Aphrodite.
15. The transitions in the character Ice Candy Man is analogous to the political upheavals of the times. Discuss.
16. Discuss the strong black women characterized in *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.*
17. A. Revathi through her autobiography reveals the daily travails of a hijra within and outside their community. Analyse.
18. Analyse Lalithambika Antharjanam's story as a social engagement countering patriarchy.

Part C

III. Answer any Two questions. Each question carries 5 weight **(2x5=10)**

19. Evaluate Wheatley's critical approach to slavery in the poem "On Being Brought from Africa to America".
20. Honor is "located in the body of the woman". Discuss with reference to Bapsi Sidhwa's *Ice Candy Man*.
21. The Hijra community is enmeshed in the mire of lingual, sartotial and economic colonisation. Evaluate with reference to A. Revathi's autobiography.
22. Evaluate Lalithambika Antharjanam as a courageous spokesperson for the oppressed women in the Namboodiri community with reference to her story "The Goddess of Revenge".