

B.A. 5th SEMESTER (HONOURS) EXAMINATION, 2021-22

ENGLISH

Course ID: 50312

Course Code: AH/ENG/502/C-12

Course Title: Women's Writing

Time: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 40

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

Answer the following questions.

1. Answer *any one* of the following questions: 1x10= 10
 - a) Elaborate after Eunice De Souza the advice to help women deal with treacherous partners as imaged in her poem.
 - b) "Dickinson's 'Because I could not stop for death' is an exploration of the cyclical nature of life and death" - Elucidate.

2. Answer *any one* of the following questions: 1x10= 10
 - a) Discuss how the relationship with the wallpaper turns out to be both traumatic and cathartic for the protagonist of 'The Yellow Wallpaper'.
 - b) The story 'The Yellow Wallpaper' strongly indicts the stranglehold of patriarchy over the medical system as also over the human urge for creativity. Explore.

3. Answer *any one* of the following questions: 1x10= 10
 - a) Comment critically on the use of images and symbols employed by Mansfield in her short story 'Bliss'.

b) Maheswata Devi's short story 'Draupadi' presents a scenario where the woman's body becomes at once a tool of oppression as well as potent weapon in the hands of the subaltern for staging a protest. Discuss with reference to the story.

4. Answer *any five* of the following questions:

5x2 = 10

- a) "We paused before a House that seemed/ A Swelling of the Ground" – Briefly comment.
- b) Why does the narrator of 'The Yellow Wallpaper' hide her journal from John and Jennie?
- c) "I cannot live with you-/ It would be Life" - Bring out the paradox in these lines.
- d) What role does Mary play in 'The Yellow Wallpaper'?
- e) "Dying / Is an art, like everything else" - What does the poet imply in these lines?
- f) What does the husband in 'The Yellow Wallpaper' think about his wife's mental condition? Why is he against her engaging in "congenial work"?
- g) What does the poetic persona manage to do once in every ten years in 'Lady Lazarus'?
- h) "...And there is a friend that sticks closer than a brother" - Identify the speaker. What does the speaker suggest by the statement?
- i) "Every woman adores a Fascist" - Explain.
- j) What according to the narrator of 'The Yellow Wallpaper' is one of the main reasons behind her delayed response to treatment?

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