

(6 pages)

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M.A. (CBCS) DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2023.

Fourth Semester

English — Core

GENDER STUDIES

(For those who joined in July 2021 onwards)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 75 marks

PART A — (10 × 1 = 10 marks)

Answer ALL the questions.

Choose the correct answer :

1. Angelo describes her "cries" as _____ in 'Still I Rise'.
(a) Soulful (b) Deep
(c) Loud (d) Painful
2. The speaker is aware of her _____ in "Helen of Troy does Countertop Dancing".
(a) skills (b) body
(c) power (d) identity

3. According to Mary Shelley, the role of nature in human life is _____.
(a) Nature is a source of beauty and inspiration
(b) Nature can provide a sense of peace and tranquility
(c) Nature is a reminder of the fragility of life
(d) All of the above
4. What is the main argument of Dale Spender's "Women and Literary History"?
(a) Women have been excluded from literary history
(b) Women have contributed equally to literary history
(c) Literary history is irrelevant to women's experience
(d) Women's literary contributions should be ignored
5. John is a _____ in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper".
(a) Lawyer (b) Writer
(c) Dentist (d) Physician
6. Alice Munroe got Noble Prize in _____.
(a) 2011 (b) 2012
(c) 2013 (d) 2014

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7. Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun*, takes place in _____.
 (a) Baltimore (b) Detroit
 (c) Philadelphia (d) Chicago
8. The story of Lynn Nottage's *Ruined* takes place in a bar/brothel in :
 (a) Rwanda (b) Congo
 (c) Liberia (d) Sudan
9. Tony Morrison's *Paradise* is set in a fictional town called :
 (a) Ruby (b) Haven
 (c) Paradise (d) Eden
10. *A Gift of Goddess Lakshmi* is a book about _____.
 (a) the experiences of a transgender woman in India
 (b) the history and mythology of the Hindu Goddess Lakshmi
 (c) the struggles of women entrepreneurs in India
 (d) the art and architecture of ancient Indian temples

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PART B — (5 × 5 = 25 marks)

Answer ALL the questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 250 words.

11. (a) Examine the theme of the power and beauty of blackness in "Still I Rise".
 Or
 (b) Explain 'Emotional and Psychological Sterility of the Woman' in Lakshmi Kannan's "She".
12. (a) Comment on the relationship between nature and happiness, in Mary Shelley in "Nature and the Meaning of Happiness".
 Or
 (b) Write a short note on Dale Spender's "Women and Literary History".
13. (a) Describe the character of John in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper".
 Or
 (b) Summarize Temsula Ao's "The Night".
14. (a) Explain why Mama buys a house in an all-white neighbourhood in *A Raisin in the Sun*.
 Or
 (b) Sketch the character of Mama Nadi in Lynn Nottage's *Ruined*.

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15. (a) Comment on the cultural and social issues of African American life in Toni Morrison's *Paradise*.

Or

- (b) Justify the title of the book *A Gift of Goddess Lakshmi* by Manobi Bandopathyay.

PART C — (5 × 8 = 40 marks)

Answer ALL the questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 600 words.

16. (a) Analyze Margaret Atwood's portrayal of Helen in "Helen of Troy does Countertop Dancing".

Or

- (b) How does Kalki Subramaniam's "Phall-us, I Cut" address issues of power and control in relationships gender?

17. (a) How does Mary Shelley define happiness in "Nature and the Meaning of Happiness"?

Or

- (b) Write a critical essay on Toril Moi's "Feminist, Feminine, Female".

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18. (a) Justify the title of the short story "The Yellow Wallpaper" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

Or

- (b) Trace the significance of the title "Dance of the Happy Shades" concerning the story and its themes.

19. (a) Analyze how Walter and Beneatha in *A Raisin in the Sun* search for a better life.

Or

- (b) Compare and contrast Mama Nadi and Christian in Lynn Nottage's *Ruined*.

20. (a) Distinguish the relationship between the towns of Haven and Ruby in Toni Morrison's *Paradise*.

Or

- (b) Defend the voice of trans people in Manobi Bandopathyay's *A Gift of Goddess Lakshmi*.

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