 LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

**M.A.** DEGREE EXAMINATION - **ENGLISH LITERATURE**

FIRST SEMESTER – **NOVEMBER 2012**

# EL 1810/1805 - FEMINIST THEORY AND PRACTICE

Date : 07/11/2012 Dept. No. Max. : 100 Marks

Time : 1:00 - 4:00

**I Attempt any three of the following in about 400-500 words each:**  (3x15=45 marks)

1. Discuss chick lit as a celebration of the postfeminist woman. What are the pitfalls?
2. To what extent can reproduction controlling technologies further the feminist cause?
3. Explain the various goals of liberal feminism.
4. What are the five types of woman-nature relationships according to Noel Sturgeon?

**II** **Attempt any three of the following in about 400-500 words each, choosing at least one from each group:** (3x15=45 marks)

**Group I**

1. Comment on how Maggie puts to use her feminine strengths of desperation and love to win back her husband and security in ***Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.***
2. Show how sisterhood between the whites and the blacks can raise the dignity of women in ***The Help.***
3. Bring out the troubled legacy of love and hate in the father-daughter relationship in ***All My Pretty Ones***. What role does love play in redeeming the individual?

**Group II**

1. How does Wangari Maathai record her feminist-environmentalist approach to life in ***Unbowed***?
2. Discuss the novel ***Wide Sargasso Sea*** as a subversion of ***Jane Eyre***.
3. Comment on the use of imagery and symbolism in Maya Angelou’s ***The Caged Bird***.

**III Attempt a feminist analysis of any ONE the following poem in about 250-300 words**

(1x10=10 marks)

Exiles

Exiled from home. The far sea rolls

Between them and the country of their birth;

The childhood turning impulse of their souls

Pulls half across the earth.

Exiled from home. No mother to take care

That they work not too hard, grieve not too sore;

No older brother nor small sister fair;

No father any more.

Exiled from home; from all familiar things;

The low-browed roof, the glass surrounded door;

Accustomed to labors that gave daylight wings;

Loved steps on the worn floor.

Exiled from home. Young girls sent forth alone

When most their hearts need close companioning;

No love and hardly friendship may they own,

No voice of welcoming.

Blinded with homesick tears the exile stands;

To toil for alien household gods she comes;

A servant and a stranger in our lands,

Homeless within our homes

**(OR)**

You show me the knife

And deprive me of life

I too wanna live

There is nothing that I cannot do

There is nothing that I cannot achieve

I am your mother

A friend a lover

I give you the strength to fight

And set things right

You hold my hands

I am the one who understands

I have a dream

A dream to belong

Sing my beautiful song

Please do not make this mistake

See me and let me awake

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