



LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – ENGLISH LITERATURE

FIRST SEMESTER – NOVEMBER 2014

EL 1808 - ADVANCED ACADEMIC WRITING

Date : 31/10/2014
Time : 01:00-04:00

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

PART A

Answer any FOUR (minimum 2 questions from each section) of the following in about 150 words each: (4x 5= 20)

SECTION I

1. What is academic integrity?
2. Explain parenthetical documentation with examples.
3. How do you cite the sources in a bibliography?

SECTION II

4. Explain linear and non-linear note- making.
5. Distinguish note-taking from note-making, by providing an example for each.
6. How is brainstorming different from mind-mapping?

PART B

Answer the following questions in about 500 words: (2x20=40)

7. What are the different components of research writing?

OR

Define analysis and interpretation. Discuss the features of the same with respective examples.

8. Discuss the process of writing an article in a peer-reviewed journal.

OR

Elaborate on the writing process with reference to paragraphing, coherence, topic sentence, expansion and write a paragraph on the topic, 'power Corrupts absolutely'.

PART C

Answer the following questions in about 500 words:

(2x20=40)

9. What is an argument? Highlight the characteristics of an argument and provide examples at every stage of explanation.

OR

Write an essay on the topic, “ Women Empowerment in India”.

10. "Can the Subaltern Speak?" Explore themes of silence and speech in Subaltern literature.

OR

Read the following extract from an article and analyze the text with reference to structure, argument, language and content.

Diasporic Identity in Bharati Mukherjee’s Desirable Daughters

Bharati Mukherjee, an India born Canadian/ American novelist, has made a deep impression on the literary canvass. She is an investigative pioneer--of innovative terrains, practices, and literatures—co-existent with her wide-ranging mission to discover new worlds. Her novels, honestly, depict the issues of her own cultural location in West Bengal in India, her displacement (alienation) from her land of origin to Canada where she was “simultaneously invisible” as a writer and “overexposed” as a racial minority and her final re-location (assimilation) to USA as a naturalized citizen. Acculturation is the depressing upshot of post-modern scenario, which Mukherjee had comprehended much early in her life .That is why, as a postmodern writer, her foremost concern has been the life of South-Asian expatriates and the dilemma of ‘acculturation’ and ‘assimilation’. Through her female characters who are autobiographical projections of her experience as an expatriate she represents in her novels the contemporary woman’s struggle to define herself and attain an autonomous selfhood, especially in cross- cultural crisis, a subject which has assumed a great significance in the present world of globalization. She endeavors to dive deep into the distorted psyche of those immigrant women who have been surviving in the conflict of traditional Indian values; inherent in their personality and their fascination for western mode of living. Her five novels and short stories delineate her evolution from alienation to adoption and assimilation.

The Tiger’s Daughter (1972) and Wife (1975) relate the dilemma of belongingness as a matter of flux and agony and explore the problems of nationality, location, identity while Jasmine and Desirable Daughters (2002) reflect the “cultural diaspora-isation” what Stuart Mall calls marks the beginning of the desire for the survival in the community of adoption. She rejects the nostalgia of her early books and the myth of the nomad 'adrift', in favour of an affirmation of belonging and the theme of the successful 'conquest' of the New World.

Desirable Daughters is a brilliantly woven thoughtful novel about three India born upper class sisters-Padma, Parvati and Tara- who live as Indian immigrants in USA. The novel basically explores the diasporic experiences of Tara, the protagonist, who is more removed from her native Indian culture than her two sisters. It registers her sense of alienation, lack of belongingness, memory and fragmented identity; nevertheless it does not describe her nostalgia, urge to return to her homeland. Unlike earlier novels such as *The Tiger's Daughter and Wife*, it celebrates immigration as the process of gain rather than a case of loss and dissolution of native culture. The protagonist undertakes the journey from expatriation to immigration; from strangeness to familiarity and from alienation to adoption and assimilation. It is a wonderful synthesis of feminist and diasporic ideologies.

Tara belongs to a conservative Bengali Brahmin family of Calcutta which constricts her future prospects in life and career. Marriage with millionaire Bishwapriya Chatterjee transplants her in U.S.A. where she absorbs energy and vitality of western life to fulfil all her desires and encroach every code of conduct and restriction laid for ladies in Indian society. American society provides her those opportunities which were denied to her till then, but Bish' traditional outlook estranges her from her husband and she is divorced. To embrace Americanism in totality she accepts divorce. Divorce leads to solitariness and solitariness causes wantonness. In an attempt to satisfy her feminist urges-unlimited liberty, sexual adventure with a Hungarian lover and career building- she loses her family, that is, husband and son. She does not realize her loss until a mysterious fellow Chris Dey enters her life and links her with her past. By introducing Chris Bharati Mukherjee explores the psyche of Tara and her diasporic feelings. Chris compels her to search her cultural identity, to make self assessment and to reexamine her past life.
