

Roll No. ....

(05/24)

**18196**

**M. A. EXAMINATION**

(For Batch 2021 & Onwards)

(Fourth Semester)

**ENGLISH**

**MA/ENG/4/DSC11**

**Literature and Gender**

*Time : Three Hours*

*Maximum Marks : 70*

**Note :** Attempt all questions.

1. Attempt any *five* questions in about **150** words each : 10

(i) How does Simone present her ideas regarding 'The woman is the other' ?

(ii) Define Showalter's idea of Pluralism and Feminist Critique.

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- (iii) Who was Matsyagandha ? What is her connection with the epic Mahabharata ?
- (iv) What do you understand by 'LGBTQ+' ?
- (v) Comment on the title of the novel *The Color Purple*.
- (vi) How does Sofia's character challenge traditional gender roles in the novel ?

2. Write a critical note on the key ideas that are addressed by Simone de Beauvoir in the Introduction of *The Second Sex*. 15

Or

According to Showalter, what is the significance of 'gynocriticism' in feminist literary theory ? How does it contribute to the understanding and analysis of women's literature ?

3. What are some of the key themes explored in Devdutt Pattanaik's *Shikhandi and Other Tales* ? How do they connect to broader cultural and philosophical traditions in India ? 15

Or

The book *Shikhandi and Other Tales* provides a powerful counter-narrative to the idea that the concept of 'LGBTQ+' or 'gender diversity and fluidity' were introduced to India by the west. Discuss.

4. Discuss the theme of gender roles in *The Color Purple*. How do the characters challenge traditional expectation of masculinity and femininity ? 15

Or

Analyse the character development of Celie throughout *The Color Purple*.

5. Write short notes in about 200 words on any three of the following : 15
- (a) Toril Moi's *Sexual/Textual Politics*
  - (b) Showalter's concept of Feminine, Feminist and Female

- (c) Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*
- (d) Routh Vanita's *Same-Sex Love in India : Readings from Literature and History*
- (e) Kimberle Crenshaw's views on 'Intersectionality'.