# LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034



#### M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION - ENGLISH

### FOURTH SEMESTER - APRIL 2022

#### PEL 4504 - WOMENS LITERATURE

Date: 22-06-2022 Dept. No. Max. : 100 Marks

Time: 01:00 PM - 04:00 PM

## SECTION - A

### Answer any FIVE of the following in about 150 words each:

### $5 \times 8 = 40 \text{ MARKS}$

- 1. What is the concept of Eternal Feminine? Substantiate your answer with two examples from your prescribed texts.
- 2. Analyse the historical events described in Seven Jewish Children.
- 3. What according to bell hooks are the limitations in the framework of sisterhood in Feminist movements?
- 4. How did Penelope become a stick to beat other women?
- 5. Explicate the trauma of the mother as a mute spectator in *Rite of Passage*.
- 6. Discuss any one significant theme in the poem *The Mother*.
- 7. What is the viewpoint of Draupadi about the patriarchal world? Elaborate.
- 8. How is the metaphysical poetry of John Donne relevant to Dr Vivian Bearing in the play *Wit* by Margaret Edson?

### SECTION - B

# Answer the following questions in about 350 words each:

 $3 \times 20 = 60 \text{ MARKS}$ 

9. a) "One is not born, but rather becomes a woman". Explicate this pertinent observation of Simone de Beauvoir.

OR

b) Read the following poem and apply concepts such as Intersectionality, Sisterhood and Eternal feminine.

### The Fat Black Woman Goes Shopping- Grace Nichols

Shopping in London winter

is a real drag for the fat black woman

going from store to store

in search of accommodating clothes
and de weather so cold
Look at the frozen thin mannequins
fixing her with grin
and de pretty face sales gals
exchanging slimming glances
thinking she don't notice

10. a) Write an elaborate essay on the lamentations of a mother in the poem *The Mother*.

#### OR

- b) With relevant examples from the texts prescribed in your syllabus, discuss the significance of reading Women's Literature.
- 11. a) Prepare an essay on the importance of the contribution of women to writing. Explain with reference to Helen Cixous' essay *The Laugh of the Medusa*.

### OR

b) How does Adrienne Rich enable women writers to re-vision texts that are phallocentric?

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