

M.A (ENGLISH) Semester - 4 (CBCS) Examination
March/April-2025 (As Per Syllabus Year June-2024)
Gender Studies(Core (New-23))

Time: 2:30 Hours**Marks: 70****Instructions:**

1. All questions are compulsory.
 2. Figures to the right indicate marks.
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Que.1 Discuss the major themes of *Orlando* by Virginia Woolf. (14)

OR

Que.1 Describe the scene in which Orlando changes sex from a male to a female. Explain why Woolf chooses such specific imagery (and the characters of Purity, Chastity, and Modesty) to describe the sex change.

Que.2 Kamala Das often explores the complexities of identity in her poetry. How does *Freaks* reflect her personal struggles with identity, and how does the poem highlight the tension between individuality and societal expectations? (14)

OR

Que.2 Critically analyze how Kamala Das uses the figure of the eunuchs in *The Dance of the Eunuchs* to explore themes of identity and marginalization. How does the poet use their physicality, performance, and societal status to critique the traditional constructs of gender and sexuality?

Que.3 Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. How does this phrase relate to *The Line of Beauty*? Provide specific examples of how beauty is perceived by different characters. (14)

OR

Que.3 Examine the relationship between Nick and Gerald Fedden. How does this relationship reflect the broader theme of personal desire versus political ideology in *The Line of Beauty*?

Que.4 How does Nafisi use memory and nostalgia to reflect on the changes in Iranian society before and after the revolution? Discuss the emotional and intellectual significance of the past in her narrative and how it shapes her students' understanding of freedom and identity. (14)

OR

Que.4 How do Nafisi's students struggle to maintain their personal autonomy and sense of self in a society that imposes strict social, cultural, and political restrictions? Discuss how their interactions with literature help them assert their individual identities despite external oppression.

Que.5 Write Short Note (Any Two) (14)

- 1) Sasha
- 2) Symbolism in *The Old Playhouse*
- 3) Irony and Satire in *The Line of Beauty*
- 4) The Significance of the Title: *Reading Lolita in Tehran*
