

M.A (ENGLISH) Semester - 4 (CBCS) Examination
March/April-2026 (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.

Que.1 Analyze the theme of love and sexuality in *Orlando*. How do Orlando's relationships with people of both genders reflect the fluid nature of love and desire, and what does this suggest about the limitations of traditional views on sexuality during the time periods explored in the novel? (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 What is the central theme of Kamala Das's poem *The Stone Age*? How does the poet use the concept of the "Stone Age" metaphorically to reflect on human existence and emotions? (14)

OR

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?

Que.3 How does Hollinghurst use symbolism in the novel? Consider the role of the "line of beauty," as well as other recurring symbols. (14)

OR

Que.3 Analyze the character of Nick Guest in *The Line of Beauty*. How does Hollinghurst portray his inner conflict between desire, class, and identity?

Que.4 What is the significance of the title of the book? How does *Lolita* serve as a metaphor in Nafisi's memoir? (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) Symbolism in 'The Old Playhouse'
- 2) The Significance of the Title: "Reading Lolita in Tehran".
- 3) Sasha.
- 4) Irony and Satire in *The Line of Beauty*.
