



LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – ENGLISH LITERATURE

SECOND SEMESTER – APRIL 2015

EL 2956 - ECOPOETICS

Date : 25/04/2015
Time : 01:00-04:00

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

PART-A

I Answer any EIGHT of the following questions (four from each section) in about 75 words each: (8x5=40 marks)

Section I

1. “How can you buy or sell the sky, the warmth of the land? The idea is strange to us. If we do not own the freshness of the air and the sparkle of the water, how can you buy them?” – Chief Seattle. Elaborate.
2. Define Gaia Hypothesis.
3. What are the eight cardinal principles of Deep Ecology?
4. Write a note on the ‘Environmental Imagination’ of Thoreau.
5. Consider ‘Ecopoetics’ as an interdisciplinary subject.

Section II

6. Explain a) Sanathana Dharma b) Ecospirituality.
7. Write an ecocritical appreciation of any one of the following films:
 - i) Lemon Tree
 - ii) Animals are Beautiful People
8. “Ecofeminism asserts the special strength and integrity of every living thing” - Ynestra King. Explain
9. Write a poem on the topic ‘Mother Nature and her children’.
10. Comment on the worldviews of indigenous people that care for Mother Earth.

PART-B

II Answer any THREE of the following questions (atleast one from each section) in about 200 words each: (3x10=30 marks)

Section I

11. The Malayalam poet ONV Kurup’s poem, ‘Iniyum Marikatha Boomi’ (A Requiem to Mother Earth) is a response to the Silent Valley Project in Kerala. Elucidate.
12. Analyze Kalidasa’s ‘Shakuntala’ (play) using the eco-critical tools.
13. Write a film review of any one of the following feature/ documentary films.
 - a) Avatar
 - b) Pole to Pole
 - c) Home

Section II

14. “Every human being has the right to be educated about Mother Earth and how to live in accordance with this Declaration”. Substantiate with examples.
15. Discuss the five types of landscape in Sangam poetry with examples.
16. Write an essay on your field visit from an eco-critical perspective.

PART-C

III Applied Criticism:

17. Analyze the given literary text using the Oikopoetic method in about 300 words:
(15 marks)

River Narmada by Nirmaldasan

No more a child to mother glad
Runs the river into the main;
But dancing flows like serpent sad,
Serpent caught in a piper's strain.

The snake dances not for ever
But coils up in a basket soon,
So within a dam the river
Curls up in a serpentine swoon.

The wind sighs o'er the river tame,
Gathering clouds darken the skies;
But is a serpent ever tame?-
A snake hisses but never sighs.
If the earth quakes, then the dam breaks:
The waters foam like killer brew.
And ere the peaceful hamlet wakes,
Each drop will prove a venom true.

The skies cry out in thunderstorms
And clouds fire a volley of rain.
Once more a child to mother's arms
The river runs into the main.

18. Find the Green Density Measurement (GDM) of the following text, applying the formula. Comment on the Green Attitude of the text in about 300 words:
(15 marks)

Crab Apple Trees by Larry Schug

I'm tempted to say these trees belong to me,
take credit for blossoms that gather sunrise
like stained glass windows,
because eighteen springs ago
I dug holes for a couple of scrawny seedlings,
spread their roots in a bed of manure,
watered them, supported them with stakes and twine
until the saplings could stand alone in the wind.
But now, the flowering crabs in my yard,
like grown children, have business of their own,
bumblebees to feed,
and small sour balloons to inflate
by the time autumnal flocks
of robins and cedar waxwings
come to them for sustenance.
My reward is in the way my eyes
gorge on brilliant blossoms,
the sweet aroma my nose inhales
like a rich dessert
in a restaurant for the senses.
