



DATE: **26-09-2017 (9AM)**

**ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BENGALURU - 27  
I SEM B.A, B. SC & B.COM – OCTOBER 2017  
ADDITIONAL ENGLISH (AE : 114)**

**Time: 2 ½ Hours**

**Max. Marks: 70**

(For supplementary students of 2016 batch only)

Do not write the register number on the question paper

Please attach the question paper along with the answer sheet

**INSTRUCTIONS**

*You are allowed to use a dictionary  
Stick to the word limit specified in the question*

**THIS BOOKLET HAS FOUR PRINTED PAGES**

**SECTION A**

**I. A. Answer any four of the following in about 150-175 words. (4x10=40)**

1. Compare and contrast the qualities associated with the hero in *The Odyssey* and *Don Quixote*.
2. Discuss how class-distinction prevalent in Spanish society during 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> century is brought out in the novel *Don Quixote*.
3. "... Clothes have a power that transcends their physical function". Discuss this statement in light of cross-dressing as an element in Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night* and *The Merchant of Venice*.
4. How does the scene involving Trinculo, Stephano, and Caliban (Act 2, scene 2) provide comic relief from the main action of the play *The Tempest*?
5. Discuss the metaphorical and symbolic relevance of 'dream' in the title *The Midsummer Night's Dream*. Elaborate using examples from the play.
6. "Shylock is a victim of anti-Semitism". Do you agree with the statement? Explain your position using instances from the play *The Merchant of Venice*.
7. Who is your favourite Shakespearean heroine and why? Elaborate with suitable examples from the play.

AE-114-A-17

## SECTION B

### **II. Read the following except from the article, 'Re-inventing the Odyssey: Women Refugees in the EU' carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

The story of refugees throughout time remains fundamentally the same: a long journey full of adventures, usually marked by many changes of fortune. These millions of personal odysseys are pigments of the bigger picture of any refugee flux, including the one the EU has been experiencing with increased intensity in the last couple of years.

The teleology of the voyage of present-day refugees may differ from that of the one undertaken by Ulysses since strictly speaking it is not about a homecoming but the quest for a new home. However, people's determination to overcome insurmountable obstacles in order to flee war and get a chance to live, is a striking common feature between fiction and reality.

A marked difference remains though the fact that the current refugee crisis is not god-managed, as is the case in Homer's Odyssey, therefore the ethical correspondence between inflicted trials and all those tried is non-existent. Immorality of wars, hypocrisy of political elites and brutal exploitation of human suffering are not really the ingredients for a journey leading to personal embetterment through physical and spiritual challenges. They rather constitute the elements of a hubris that has been going on unpunished since the dawn of time, and there has been no Zeus to strike them down with a thunderbolt.

Even without the wrath of mythological gods, refugees' journeys are not less epic. Let alone if it is women and girls, who embark upon the perilous voyage to the European Union, an unknown destination of hope and salvation. Most of them are re-inventing the Odyssey on their way to Europe, surpassing the courage and resourcefulness of Homeric Ulysses. But their needs are different from those of male refugees, and this must be duly taken into account.

According to the United Nations, over 43 million people worldwide are forcibly displaced as a result of conflict and persecution, reaching a peak since the mid-1990s. Children represent around 41% of the world's refugees, and about half of all refugees are women. Concerning the European context, women and children now account for more than half of all refugees arriving in Greece, which indicates that there has been a clear gender shift since last summer, when men accounted for 73%. New figures from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) indicate that men have accounted for just 45% so far in 2016. The share of women has nearly doubled from 11% last summer to 21% now, while children account for 34%.

We therefore witness a change in the ratio of male and female migrants, which brings a certain gender balance both in terms of the initial mass exodus of men from their countries of origin but also of the influx of young male refugees in host EU countries. This can be partly explained by the fact that more women are now attempting to reach the EU with their children in order to join men who did already make the initial trip last year and to reunite with their families.

While the impact of more mixed migratory flows is undoubtedly positive, one should bear in mind that female refugees, including adolescent girls, are often exposed to assault and rape on their journey to Europe and can become extremely vulnerable to trafficking and prostitution. Many of them have already experienced the use of rape as a weapon of war in armed conflicts in their countries of origin. According to the UNHCR, some women refugees even marry for safety reasons, in order to have a protector during the journey, while others begin contraceptive treatment preventively, believing that they will anyway be raped on the way.

Women and adolescent girls, particularly when unaccompanied, are indeed among the most vulnerable categories because they suffer multiple discriminations and violations of their basic human rights. There are no clear figures, and more particularly gender segregated ones, for the survival rates of those attempting to reach the old continent. Yet, it does not take a lot of imagination to guess that women and children are paying a particularly high toll. This is why those women, who make it, arrive in Europe with multiple traumas, both psychological and physical, requiring special attention.

Unlike Ulysses, who reaches Ithaca after a prolonged alternation of hedonistic experiences – be it sexual, culinary or artistic - and superhuman battles, women refugees' journeys are invariably sheer ordeals, putting to the test one's very humanity. Staying in their home countries is in most cases not an option: in 2015, more than a million migrants entered Europe and around half of them were Syrians fleeing war. For women refugees, it is important that once on European soil, they are no longer exposed to the multiple discriminations they had to endure during their journey to the EU. This is not always the case.

The migration crisis, overwhelming in its nature and volume, has stretched to its limits administrative capacity for the reception of refugees in many Member States, putting to the test the very notion of European solidarity and shaking the foundations of European integration with the de facto abolition of Schengen in some parts of the EU. Meanwhile, over 51,000 refugees, wishing to go to northern Europe, are stuck in Greece since neighbouring countries in the Balkans have sealed their borders. At the same time, Greek islands are submerged by numerous new daily arrivals. This cannot but confirm the weaknesses of the current Dublin Regulation, which stipulates that the EU Member State responsible for examining an asylum application is the country of first point of irregular entry of a third-country national or stateless person.

It is true that the magnitude of the challenge is such that local and regional authorities, which are typically at the frontline when it comes to dealing with refugee influxes, are not always able to respond effectively to the needs of refugees. Images from Idomeni, from the island of Lesbos, or until very recently, from the improvised refugee camp of Calais, better known as the "jungle" of Calais, confirm fears of despair and escalating tensions.

Under such circumstances, the reception of refugees is not always gender-sensitive. Amongst the refugee population, refugee women often continue experiencing multiple forms of discrimination and being confronted with many hazards even when on EU soil. This may leave them perplexed, having thought that they had left once and for all behind them the monster of violence and fear...

To cross the Strait of Messina, Ulysses had to navigate between two inescapable hazards - Scylla, a six-headed sea monster, and Charybdis, a lethal whirlpool. He chose to confront Scylla, but still suffered considerable losses. Despite the magnitude of the migration challenge, the EU should never give the impression of being the lesser of two evils...

**II. A. Answer the following questions in about 150-175 words. (3x10=30)**

1. How are the needs of women refugees different from that of the male refugees?
2. From your reading of *Odyssey*, compare and contrast the theme of home-coming with that of the female refugees discussed in the article.
3. What in your view would be some effective measures that the host EU countries can take to address the problems faced by the refugee women?

OCTOBER 2017 SUPPLE FOR 16 BATCH