

B.A. EXAMINATION, 2025
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
1st Year, 2nd Semester
Subject Code : ARTS/SOCI/UG/SEC/12/102
(ACADEMIC WRITING SKILLS) (SEC)

Time : Two Hours**Full Marks : 30**CO1 : (Answer any *one* question CO1) 10

1. a) Review Rabindranath Tagore's 'A Wife's Letter' as one of the earliest feminist texts in Indian literature.
- b) Discuss the symbolism of the matchbox in Ashapura Devi's story 'Matchbox'.

CO2 : (Answer any *one* question CO2) 10

2. a) Write an essay on a consumer item using your sociological imagination.
- b) Smart phones hold great promise for progress as well as pose serious threats. Write an essay using sociological concepts.

CO3 : (Answer any *one* question CO3) 5

3. a) Write a summary of the following passage indicating the topical sentence.

To a certain extent, everybody wants to feel unique. Just as no two snowflakes are the same, we may believe that each person possesses a special combination of qualities and strengths. Our feelings of individuality often relate to inner qualities like personality, interests, or sense of humor, but a key way that we express that uniqueness is through the things we purchase and display to the outside world—the decorations we hang on our walls, the clothing we wear, the car we drive (or the bicycle we ride). Consumption can certainly afford us a sense of individuality. A collection of consumer items, shopping habits, and style decisions can come to feel like they express something about who we are. However, there is a paradox at work here: in contemporary consumer culture, the things we buy and covet are purchased and coveted by many other people—and that's often why we want them! Thus, the very things that express our uniqueness also align us with a larger group. We often employ brand names to convey our sense of self to others. We often employ brand names to convey our sense of self to others. Think here of a Coach bag (signaling your sophistication and wealth), a pair of Air Jordan sneakers (demonstrating your connection to basketball and hip-hop culture), a Chevy truck (suggesting that you're the rugged, off-roading type), or a pair of Lululemon yoga pants (showing off your body and/or interest in fitness). Even a lifestyle group known for their aversion to mainstream brand labels—hipsters—can seem to be following a kind of eccentric dress code— e.g. knitted hat, thick-rimmed glasses, ironic t-shirt, colorful cardigan, and messenger bag. (Johnston, J. 2017)

- b) What is the purpose of conclusions?

CO4 : (Answer any *one* question CO4) 5

4. a) Why is referencing and citing sources crucial in academic writing?
- b) Why is plagiarism a problem?
