

**JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY**  
**MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2023**  
**Second Year Second Semester**  
**ENGLISH**  
**Women, Writing, Madness**

Time: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer any *two* questions from Group A and *one* question from Group B.

**Group A**

Answer any two of the following:

(2 x 12=24)

1. How would you read the terms “madness” and “civilization” in Foucault’s *Madness and Civilisation: A History of Insanity in the Age of Reason*? Analyse Euripedes’ *Bacchae* using a framework of madness and civilization.
2. Does the mad woman have an ideological function in Renaissance revenge tragedies? Discuss with textual examples.
3. How does the rise of nineteenth century industrial capitalism influence the literary representation of women’s madness? Discuss with suitable examples.
4. How are discursive constructions of women’s madness mapped onto their sexualities and reproductive functions? Discuss with reference to two texts that you have studied.
5. How do the differences of race and geographies construct women’s madness in *Wide Sargasso Sea*? Discuss with reference to Rhys’ project of writing back.
6. How does Plath gender the discourses of creativity and madness in her poems and *The Bell Jar*?

**Group B**

7. Write a short note on any one of the following

(1 x 6 = 12)

- (i) Mad Studies
- (ii) Mahadevi Akka’s *vachanas*
- (iii) Hopital General de Paris
- (iv) *Maria, or the Wrongs of Woman*
- (v) *Daemonologie*