

Entrance Examination - 2025
Ph.D. (Gender Studies)

Time 2 hours

Maximum Marks: 70

Hall Ticket No. _____

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your Hall Ticket Number on the OMR Answer Sheet given to you and also write the Hall Ticket Number in the space provided above.
2. This question paper is divided into **Part-A and Part-B, and consists of 70 multiple-choice** questions. Questions in Part-A are on Research Methodology, and questions in Part-B are subject-specific.
3. Each question carries **one** mark. There is no negative marking.
4. Answers are to be marked on the OMR answer sheet following the instructions provided there upon.
5. Hand over the OMR answer sheet at the end of the examination to the invigilator.
6. No additional sheet(s) will be provided. Rough work can be done in the question paper itself/space provided at the end of the booklet.

PART A

1. Which of the following is a key principle of feminist research methodology?
 - A. Quantitative analysis over qualitative methods
 - B. Objectivity and neutrality in data collection
 - C. Centring marginalised voices and perspectives
 - D. Avoidance of emotional responses to data

2. Which of the following is an example of participatory feminist research?
 - A. Surveys distributed by a researcher
 - B. Community-led action research
 - C. Lab experiments with human subjects
 - D. Statistical analysis of data

3. How do you understand the word “informed” in “informed consent” in research?
 - A. The researcher is well-informed about the field and the respondents
 - B. The respondents are well-informed about the researcher
 - C. The respondents give their consent after being well-informed about the research
 - D. The elders and authorities are well-informed about the research

4. Which of the following is a major point raised by the feminist critique of quantitative research methods?
 - A. Reductionist Approach and Lack of Context
 - B. Subjective analysis of lived experiences
 - C. Class-centric and analytical
 - D. All the above

5. What is the purpose of intersectionality in feminist research?
 - A. To analyse how different identities overlap
 - B. To focus solely on gender issues
 - C. To overlook social class and race
 - D. To promote a single narrative

6. Standpoint Theory focuses on
 - A. Feminist Perspective
 - B. Embodied Knowledge
 - C. Social Position
 - D. All the above

7. What is the significance of using qualitative data in feminist statistics?
- A. It is not important, as quantitative data is sufficient to understand gender inequalities
 - B. It is only useful for confirming existing stereotypes about women
 - C. It helps to provide a nuanced understanding of how statistical data relates to lived experiences
 - D. It is not relevant as it does not offer objective data
8. Which method is commonly used in feminist qualitative research?
- A. Large-scale surveys
 - B. In-depth interviews
 - C. Randomised controlled trials
 - D. Econometric modeling
9. Which of the following is not a key aspect of Gender Analysis?
- A. Analysing Power Dynamics
 - B. Identifying Inequalities
 - C. Developing Strategies for Change
 - D. Homogenization and monopolisation
10. What is a common method used in feminist research to ensure participant voices are heard?
- A. Quantitative surveys only
 - B. Experimental designs without participant input
 - C. Ethnographic and qualitative approaches
 - D. Large-scale statistical analysis
11. What is the primary focus of feminist research on sexual harassment?
- A. Understanding it as an interpersonal issue
 - B. Examining it as a form of gender-based violence rooted in systemic inequality
 - C. Ignoring the broader societal implications
 - D. Focusing primarily on legal definitions
12. Which of the following is a key ethical consideration in feminist research?
- A. Ensuring collaboration and minimising harm to participants
 - B. Using anonymous sources only
 - C. Avoiding statistical data
 - D. Avoiding emotional engagement with respondents

13. Grounded Theory is an approach that aims to:
- A. Develop universal models
 - B. Construct a theory from data
 - C. Describe solely dominant cultural practices
 - D. Dismiss case studies
14. A Case Study involves:
- A. Detailed analysis of an individual, group, event or organisation
 - B. Large-scale surveys
 - C. Questionnaires
 - D. Laboratory experiments
15. Thematic Analysis is primarily used to:
- A. Measure variables
 - B. Identify patterns in data
 - C. Conduct interviews
 - D. Analyse statistics
16. Feminist triangulation in research aims to:
- A. Cross-validate findings using multiple methods
 - B. Prioritise uncovering subjugated knowledges
 - C. Both A and B
 - D. Neither A nor B
17. Validity in qualitative research can be enhanced through:
- A. Thick descriptions
 - B. Large sample sizes
 - C. Randomised control trials
 - D. Standardized instruments
18. Coding in qualitative analysis refers to:
- A. Transcribing interviews
 - B. Conducting surveys
 - C. Digitising data
 - D. Organising data into categories

19. Transcription refers to:

- A. Converting audio/video data into writing
- B. Analysing qualitative data
- C. Designing research questions
- D. Translating documents and interviews from the field

20. Feminist scholars have critiqued traditional stratification research for the following:

- A. For theorising solely on the basis of class
- B. For ignoring the impact of gender in shaping social hierarchies
- C. For theorising solely on the basis of caste
- D. For considering gender as a primary axis of inequality

21. What is a benefit of longitudinal studies in feminist research?

- A. Quick data collection
- B. Tracking changes over time
- C. Reducing sample size
- D. Avoiding ethical issues

22. What is the principal goal of feminist quantitative research?

- A. To identify gender disparities and inform policy
- B. To endorse existing methodologies
- C. To predict market trends
- D. To study historical events

23. What does positionality refer to?

- A. Geographic location of the research field
- B. Researchers' awareness of their social identities and biases
- C. The social contribution of a research project
- D. The formal designation of the researcher

24. What is the aim of "consciousness-raising" in feminist research?

- A. To pacify dissenting voices
- B. To separate the researcher from the participants
- C. To gather data on mental health
- D. To promote a sense of community and collective action

25. The feminist critic who proposed the concept of strong objectivity is
- A. Barbara McClintock
 - B. Sandra Harding
 - C. Audre Lorde
 - D. Esther Duflo
26. Which of the following by Patricia Hill Collins is a key theoretical framework in feminist research?
- A. "Black Feminist Thought"
 - B. "Theoretical Foundings of Black Feminism"
 - C. "Race, Class, and Gender"
 - D. "Intersectionality: An Overview"
27. The "gaze" in feminist media research is used to analyse:
- A. Power dynamics in representation
 - B. Camera techniques
 - C. Both A and B
 - D. Neither A nor B
28. What does the term "gender" refer to in feminist research?
- A. Biological differences between sexes
 - B. The social construction of roles, behaviours, and identities
 - C. Legal definitions of male and female
 - D. Economic status based on sex
29. Which of the following is **not** an ethical principle informing feminist research?
- A. Empower participants to shape the research and its outcomes.
 - B. Emphasise reciprocity between the researcher and the researched.
 - C. Expect high levels of objectivity from the researcher.
 - D. Involve a critique of androcentric perspectives.
30. Feminist disaggregated data refers to:
- A. Data analysed in a way to specifically understand the experiences and needs of women and marginalised gender identities
 - B. Breaking down broad datasets into smaller, detailed datasets to make visible the specific challenges faced by marginalised groups
 - C. Developing effective policies that promote gender equality and social justice
 - D. All of the above

Read the following excerpt and answer the questions from 31-35.

‘The silence of a thousand years is broken,’ exulted Dr Rachel Bodley in her Introduction to Pandita Ramabai’s *The High-Caste Hindu Woman*, a cogent account of the constricted and oppressed lives of upper-caste Indian women, which was appended with a proposal for their emancipation. The book, which I consider ‘an unofficial Indian feminist manifesto’, was published in the United States in 1887 and sold 9,000 copies internationally within a year.¹ Its author was instantly iconized in Western countries from the USA to Australia as well as in countries of Asia, to linger on in their collective memories, even as Ramabai herself came to be relegated to silence in the social histories and reform discourses of western India where she had made her home. This conundrum is pivotal to an understanding of her life (1858–1922) and contribution. I argue also that her elision was rooted mainly in her feminism (and not in her conversion to Christianity followed by proselytization, as is usually believed) – a fact that needs to be adequately addressed in any attempt to assess her. Thus, the present volume seeks to locate her biographical narrative within her various and overlapping social and ideological contexts, amplifying her own voice whenever possible and offering some of her essential writings.

What lent Ramabai’s contribution special valence was that it was she – a solitary and largely unsupported Indian woman – and not any of the far more vocal Indian men or Western women – who ‘named’ most eloquently and systematically the problems of the ‘oppressed Indian woman’, so highly troped in the West. Such was the power of her voice that it reverberated across the globe a century ago, only to be suppressed equally long within India. This attempt to trace her entire register is a project of retrieval – of her significant texts, her multiple ideological evolutions and of the intricacies of her feminism within the intersecting and sometimes-conflicting structures of patriarchy, religion, nationalism and internationalism. But its nuances can be appreciated only by reaching into the past to reclaim and evaluate also her activism that accompanied it.

(Meera Kosambi, Introduction to *Pandita Ramabai: Life and Landmark Writings*)

31. How do you describe Meera Kosambi’s research?

- A. Ethnography
- B. Feminist Historiography
- C. Glorification of Women
- D. Quantitative Research

32. What does this excerpt emphasise about textual analysis in research?

- A. Intertextuality
- B. Ideological affiliations
- C. Nuanced reading
- D. All of the above

33. Which of the following best describes Meera Kosambi's writing?

- A. Life Writings
- B. Literary Histories
- C. Postcolonial Subversions
- D. All of the above

34. The author's research employs

- A. Historical contextualisation
- B. Emphasis on an alternative lens
- C. Both A and B
- D. Neither A nor B

35. What does the tone of the author convey?

- A. Endorsing the life and writings of Ramabai
- B. Re-creating the impact of Ramabai
- C. Re-presenting Ramabai
- D. Condemning Ramabai as a social reformer

PART B

36. Manspreading has its roots in

- A. Skeletal anatomy
- B. Cultural hegemony
- C. Individual choice
- D. Private domain

37. Whataboutery/Whataboutism means

- A. Responding to an accusation with a counter-accusation
- B. Gaslighting
- C. Mansplaining
- D. All the above

38. Gender Schema Theory was proposed by:

- A. Sandra Bem
- B. Alexandra Kollontai
- C. Carl Jung
- D. Irawati Karve

39. Critical gender theory

- A. Employs a feminist lens
- B. Deconstructs traditional notions
- C. Advocates of inclusivity and equality
- D. All of the above

40. Identify the wrong match in the following.

- A. Whatever Happened to Vedic Dasi–Uma Chakravarti
- B. The Female Eunuch–Germaine Greer
- C. Reshaping the Female Body: The Dilemma of Cosmetic Surgery–Naomi Wolf
- D. Abortion and the Law: Questions for Feminism–Nivedita Menon

41. “It is clear that feminist jurisprudence cannot be superimposed upon the pre-existing edifice structured on gender bias. Gender concerns have to be woven into the doctrine of medical jurisprudence from its base.” Who said this?

- A. Patricia Oberoi
- B. Alice Walker
- C. Anne Summers
- D. Flavia Agnes

42. Who theorised the concept of “the madwoman in the attic”?

- A. Jane Austen
- B. Virginia Woolf
- C. Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar
- D. None of the above

43. Who was awarded the prestigious MacArthur "genius" fellowship for 2024 for elucidating the enduring nature of caste discrimination and the forces that perpetuate untouchability and marginality?

- A. C.K. Janu
- B. Shailaja Paik
- C. Meena Kandasamy
- D. Phulan Devi

44. "They wanted black women to conform to the gender norms set by white society. They wanted to be recognized as 'men,' as patriarchs, by other men, including white men. Yet they could not assume this position if black women were not willing to conform to prevailing sexist gender norms." Who said this?
- A. Audre Lorde
 - B. Ama Ata Aidoo
 - C. bell hooks
 - D. Anna Julia Cooper
45. What differentiates strategic gender needs from practical gender needs?
- A. Long-term planning and implementation
 - B. Addressing Systemic Transformation
 - C. Denial of gender-based needs
 - D. None of the above
46. Who is considered to be a co-founder in the field of masculinity studies?
- A. Toni Morrison
 - B. Gautam Bhan
 - C. R.W. Connell
 - D. David Hardiman
47. Which of the following is a racial stereotype?
- A. Madonna
 - B. Jezebel
 - C. Angel in the house
 - D. None of the above
48. What is the goal of feminist epistemology?
- A. To maintain traditional academic structures
 - B. To ignore power dynamics in research
 - C. To focus solely on scientific methods
 - D. To challenge and change existing knowledge frameworks
49. Which of the following best describes radical feminism?
- A. Focus on workplace equality
 - B. Emphasis on gender as a social construct
 - C. Advocacy for women's liberation through systemic change
 - D. Support for traditional family roles

50. What does the term "essentialism" mean in feminist thought?
- A. The belief that women are biologically superior to men
 - B. The idea that all women share the same experiences
 - C. The notion that gender is a social construct
 - D. The focus on intersectionality
51. Judith Butler is known for which concept?
- A. Gender as a social construct
 - B. Gender performativity
 - C. Second sex
 - D. Patriarchy
52. Who wrote "If Men Could Menstruate"?
- A. Gloria Steinem
 - B. Simone de Beauvoir
 - C. Betty Friedan
 - D. bell hooks
53. Which organisation was established in 1926 to promote women's rights?
- A. Indian Women's Association
 - B. Rastriya Shakti Movement
 - C. All India Women's Conference (AIWC)
 - D. Anveshi
54. What does the term "feminisation of poverty" refer to?
- A. The idea that women are inherently poor
 - B. The overrepresentation of women in low-paying jobs and poverty statistics
 - C. The belief that poverty impacts women more in the Global South
 - D. The elimination of poverty among women
55. In which decade did Women's Studies begin in Indian universities?
- A. 1950s
 - B. 1970s-80s
 - C. 1990s
 - D. 2000s

56. Which significant legal reform was introduced after the Delhi gang rape case in 2012?
- A. Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act
 - B. The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act
 - C. Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2013
 - D. The National Commission for Women Act
57. Which programme focuses on rural development and women's empowerment?
- A. Kudumbashree
 - B. Swasthya Bharati
 - C. Janata Suvidha
 - D. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
58. What does "queer" mean in modern LGBTQ+ contexts?
- A. A specific sexual orientation
 - B. An umbrella term for diverse sexual identities and orientations
 - C. A medical diagnosis
 - D. A type of art movement
59. Which country was the first to legalise same-sex marriage?
- A. Netherlands
 - B. United States
 - C. France
 - D. Canada
60. Which term describes the psychological state resulting from a mismatch between a person's gender identity and the sex assigned to them at birth?
- A. Transgender
 - B. Nonbinary
 - C. Gender dysphoria
 - D. Intersex
61. What is the term for an individual who supports LGBTQ+ rights but isn't part of the community?
- A. Activist
 - B. Ally
 - C. Advocate
 - D. Benefactor

62. What is "misgendering"?
- A. Using incorrect pronouns
 - B. Discrimination based on gender
 - C. Lack of legal recognition
 - D. Harassment in public spaces
63. Which term refers to the multiple roles women often juggle, such as worker and caregiver?
- A. Glass Ceiling
 - B. Second Shift
 - C. Gender Pay Gap
 - D. Work-Life Balance
64. Which female scientist played a crucial role in DNA discovery but is often overlooked?
- A. Marie Curie
 - B. Rosalind Franklin
 - C. Ada Lovelace
 - D. Gertrude B. Elion
65. The National Federation of Dalit Women (NFDW) was founded by
- A. Ruth Manorama
 - B. Sharmila Rege
 - C. Baby Kamble
 - D. Bama

Read the following excerpt and answer the questions from 66 to 70.

I come from a conventional, middle-class Nigerian family. My father was a professor. My mother was an administrator. And so we had, as was the norm, live-in domestic help, who would often come from nearby rural villages. So, the year I turned eight, we got a new house boy. His name was Fide. The only thing my mother told us about him was that his family was very poor. My mother sent yams and rice, and our old clothes, to his family. And when I didn't finish my dinner, my mother would say, "Finish your food! Don't you know? People like Fide's family have nothing." So I felt enormous pity for Fide's family.

Then one Saturday, we went to his village to visit, and his mother showed us a beautifully patterned basket made of dyed raffia that his brother had made. I was startled. It had not occurred to me that anybody in his family could actually make something. All I had heard about them was how poor they were, so that it had become impossible for me to see them as anything else but poor. Their poverty was my single story of them.

Years later, I thought about this when I left Nigeria to go to university in the United States. I was 19. My American roommate was shocked by me. She asked where I had learned to speak English so well, and was confused when I said that Nigeria happened to have English as its official language. She asked if she could listen to what she called my “tribal music,” and was consequently very disappointed when I produced my tape of Mariah Carey. She assumed that I did not know how to use a stove.

What struck me was this: She had felt sorry for me even before she saw me. Her default position toward me, as an African, was a kind of patronizing, well-meaning pity. My roommate had a single story of Africa: a single story of catastrophe. In this single story, there was no possibility of Africans being similar to her in any way, no possibility of feelings more complex than pity, no possibility of a connection as human equals.

(Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, “The Danger of a Single Story “)

66. A single story can be dangerous because

- A. It becomes prejudiced and patronizing
- B. Gives a partial and hegemonic picture
- C. It is based on stereotypical representation and assumption
- D. All the above

67. What does the location of the I in the above narrative convey?

- A. Relational identities
- B. Static contexts
- C. Permanent circumstances
- D. Politics of dependency

68. The author draws our attention to the socialisation based on

- A. Hierarchies and privileges
- B. Differences and identifications
- C. Shifting locations
- D. All the above

69. What is the nature of the gaze Adichie is referring to?

- A. Natural
- B. Conditioned
- C. Difficult to decide
- D. Neutral

70. What approach does the narrative employ while discussing identities?

- A. Intersectional
- B. Objective
- C. Ethno-centric
- D. Euro-centric

University of Hyderabad
Entrance Examinations - 2025
Ph.D. Admissions

School/Department/Centre : CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

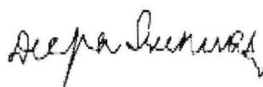
Course : Ph.D.

Subject : GENDER STUDIES

Q.No.	Answer	Q.No.	Answer	Q.No.	Answer
1	C	26	A	51	B
2	B	27	C	52	A
3	C	28	B	53	C
4	A	29	C	54	B
5	A	30	D	55	B
6	D	31	B	56	C
7	C	32	D	57	A
8	B	33	D	58	B
9	D	34	C	59	A
10	C	35	C	60	C
11	B	36	B	61	B
12	A	37	A	62	A
13	B	38	A	63	B
14	A	39	D	64	B
15	B	40	C	65	A
16	C	41	D	66	D
17	A	42	C	67	A
18	D	43	B	68	D
19	A	44	C	69	B
20	B	45	B	70	A
21	B	46	C		
22	A	47	B		
23	B	48	D		
24	D	49	C		
25	B	50	B		

Note/Remarks :

Signature



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