

2022

ENGLISH

( Honours Elective )

Paper : ENG-HE-5056

( Literary Criticism and Literary Theory )

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions*

1. Answer any *ten* of the following as directed :

1×10=10

- (a) What, according to Wordsworth, is the "great spring of the activity of our minds"?
- (b) What is the subject matter of poetry according to Wordsworth?
- (c) In which essay does Eliot formulate his "impersonal theory of poetry"?
- (d) What is the main objective of the book, *Principles of Literary Criticism*?

(e) Whom does Virginia Woolf consider to be the worst culprit among the novelists she attacks?

(f) Which branch of study does I. A. Richards take up to conduct his criticism?

(g) I. A. Richards says that the book, *Principles of Literary Criticism* could be compared to "a loom that re-weaves".

( State True or False )

(h) I. A. Richards makes a difference between the two uses of language: between the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ uses.

( Fill in the blanks )

(i) Which poem by Wordsworth is discussed in the essay, *The Language of Paradox*?

(j) The purpose of a paradox is to arrest attention and provoke fresh thought.

( State True or False )

(k) Terry Eagleton reshapes the Marxist ideology proposed by Marx and Engels.

( State True or False )

(l) In which year was Eagleton's *Marxism and Literary Criticism* published?

- (m) What is the task of feminist critics?
- (n) Who was the main influence on Edward Said when he thought of *Orientalism*?
- (o) What is Fanon's stance on different kinds or degrees of racism?
- (p) Name two books written by Foucault.
- (q) What are the two main types of power according to Foucault?
- (r) In which year did Edward Said publish *Orientalism*?

2. Answer any *five* of the following questions :

2×5=10

- (a) Examine Wordsworth's views on 'Poetic Diction'.
- (b) What does I. A. Richards say about the language of poetry?
- (c) What is the connection between Marxism and literary criticism?
- (d) What are the problems of feminist critic?
- (e) What is 'the program of gynocritics'?
- (f) What controls the free play of structure?

(g) What was Gandhi's technique of passive resistance?

(h) What is the scope of Orientalism?

(i) How does Fanon describe Black people who "want to be white"?

(j) What is the relation between economic and psychological inferiority?

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

5×4=20

(a) Critically examine Wordsworth's statement that "all good poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings".

(b) What is the difference between fancy and imagination as per Coleridge's views?

(c) What are the main ideas endorsed by Woolf in her *Modern Fiction*?

(d) What is T. S. Eliot's view on historical sense in *Tradition and the Individual Talent*?

(e) How can Marxism be applied in analyzing literary text?

(f) What arguments does Toril Moi use to warn against creating a separate canon of women's texts?

(g) Why was the specific intellectual or 'expert' more likely to emerge from disciplines such as biology and physics according to Foucault?

(h) How does Fanon compare and contrast the experience of Black and Jewish people?

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

10×4=40

(a) Critically examine Wordsworth's definition of poetry. His *Preface to the Lyrical Ballads* marks a turning point in the way critics look at poetry. Do you agree? Substantiate your views.

(b) In *Biographia Literaria*, Coleridge comments about fancy and imagination that "the difference between the two is the same as the difference between a mechanical mixture and a chemical compound". Elucidate the statement.

- (c) "Poetry is not a turning loose of emotion, but an escape from emotion; it is not the expression of personality, but an escape from personality." Discuss.
- (d) Write an essay on I. A. Richards' 'Two uses of Language' as reflected in Chapter-34 of *Principles of Literary Criticism*.
- (e) How does Cleanth Brooks explain paradox through Donne's Metaphysical poem? Discuss.
- (f) "Showalter believes in reconstructing women's literary tradition to see how their work was 'different and special' and to rediscover the works of women writers whose works have been obscured by time and to establish the continuity of female tradition." Discuss.
- (g) Explain Toril Moi's argument that Anglo-American feminists have largely ignored the form of the texts, thereby reducing female literature to the realist autobiographies.
- (h) What does Derrida say about structure, sign, and play in his essay, *Structure, Sign, and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences*? Discuss.

- (i) How does Foucault contrast the 'specific intellectual' with the 'universal intellectual'? Why would the former be more aware?
- (j) What might Foucault mean by 'lateral connections across different forms of knowledge'? List some of the forms of knowledge that Foucault discusses.

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