

The University of Burdwan
Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE)

M.A. Part-II Examination 2021

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

Subject: English

Time: 2 Hours

Full Marks (for all the 4 papers): 40

PAPER V

(Literary Criticism: From Plato to the present)

Answer *any one* of the following: 1×10=10

1. What does Plato say about poetry in his *Republic*.
2. Explain in detail Aristotle's theory of tragedy.
3. What is Wordsworth's theory of poetry in his Preface to *The Lyrical Ballads*? How does he depart from the standards of neoclassical verse?
4. What is Matthew Arnold's 'touchstone' method of criticism? What, according to Matthew Arnold, are the functions and qualifications of a critic?

Paper VI

(Shakespeare)

Answer *any one* of the following:

1×10 = 10

1. "The very instant that I saw you did

My heart fly to your service, there resides
 To make me slave to it, and for your sake
 Am I this patient log-man”.

— Explain with reference to the context.

2. “Cleopatra is majestic despite her reductive wiles.” — Analyse the character of Cleopatra in the light of this remark.
3. Critically discuss the contribution of any one of the following critics to Shakespearean criticism:
 - a. Charles Lamb
 - b. A. C. Bradley
 - c. L. C. Knights
4. Show how Shakespeare presents the aggressive nature of “Time’s Progress” in sonnets 55 and 64.

PAPER VII (A)

(European Literature: Ancient to Modern)

Answer *any one* of the following: 1×10=10

1. Justify King Oedipus as a ‘perfect tragedy’.
2. Discuss Dante’s conception of the Classics versus the Christian. How does he honour the Classical tradition while adhering to the tenets of Christianity?

3. What is the significance of the title 'A Doll's House'? Discuss critically with reference to the text.

4. Who is Anna Karenina? How does Tolstoy present her in the novel of the same name?

Paper VII (B)

(Old and Middle English)

Answer *any one* of the following:

1×10 = 10

1. Is *Beowulf* Scandinavian in context but English in spirit? Give reasons for your answer.
2. Critically analyse the ending of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*.
3. Consider *Pearl* as a 'vision poem.'
4. Discuss the significance of the 'dream debate' of *The Nun's Priest's Tale*.

PAPER VII (C)

(Indian English Literature)

Answer *any one* of the following: 1×10=10

1. How does Raja Rao's *Kanthapura* try to resist colonialism?
2. Comment on the title of *The Shadow Lines* by Amitav Ghosh.
3. Describe how Mahesh Dattani's play *Final Solutions* portrays the sufferings of the Hindus and Muslims during the time of communal riots.
4. Discuss Kamala Das's sense of futility in 'The Dance of the Eunuchs'

or

Write a critical appreciation of Shiv K. Kumar's poem 'Days in New York'.

Paper VII (E)

(ELT and Stylistics)

Answer *any one* of the following:

1×10 = 10

1. What are the characteristic differences between a pidgin and a creole? Illustrate.
2. Give your idea of 'validity' and 'reliability' in testing. Write a note on different types of 'validity' in testing.
3. What is 'transitivity'? How is it related to stylistics?
4. "The language of literature is a register because in creating a piece of literature the author plays a distinct role." — Discuss.

Paper VIII (B)

(American Literature)

Answer *any one* of the following: 1×10=10

1. What is the significance of the title 'Passage to India' by Walt Whitman?
2. Why is Mark twain's Huckleberry Finn considered a classic in literature?

3. How does Toni Morrison's *Beloved* examine the destructive legacy of slavery?
4. Write a critical appreciation of Robert Frost's 'After Apple-Picking' or Sylvia Plath's 'Daddy'.

Paper VIII (E)

(Literary Theory)

Answer **any one** of the following:

1×10 = 10

1. How does Bakhtin theorize 'carnavalesque' in his *Rabelais and His World*? Briefly comment on the socio-political context in which the text was produced.
 2. Assess the contribution of Ferdinand de Saussure to the development of Structuralism.
 3. Critically examine the Marxist debates on Modernist literature.
 4. Critically analyse Homi K. Bhabha's contribution to the theory of postcolonialism.
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