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Reg. No. :

Name :



Third Semester M.A. Degree Examination, February 2024

English Language and Literature

Core Course : Paper X

EL 532 : CRITICAL STUDIES II

(2022 Admission)

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 75

I. Answer any five of the following questions in about 50 words:

1. Define the term Black Humour.
2. What is meant by Hyper reality?
3. Explain the term Minimalism and Maximalism.
4. What is Ambivalence?
5. What are the tenets of Dalit Studies? Explain.
6. What is Humanism?
7. What is meant by Bio politics?
8. What is Post Nationalism?

(5 × 2 = 10 Marks)

P.T.O.



ii. Answer any five of the following questions in about 100 words:

9. Explain the term metafiction in Post modernism. Giving examples from texts of your choice.
10. The concept of The Third Space is different for Homi Babha and Edward Soja. Explain.
11. What are the characteristics of the postmodern condition as postulated by Lyotard?
12. Explain the term Simulacra and Simulation as conceived by Baudrillard.
13. Explain the orient/occident binaries as postulated by Edward Said.
14. "The organized structure of the nation – state is often challenged by contemporary political realities". Explain in terms of Nationalism and Post nationalism.
15. What are the premises of Subaltern Studies? Explain.
16. Explain the thought experiment by Alan Weisman presented in "The climate of History : Four Theses". What is its relevance during the current planetary crisis?

(5 × 5 = 25 Marks)

iii. Answer any two of the following questions in about 300 words choosing one from each group.

Group – A

17. "Theories of colonial discourses have been hugely influential in the development of Post colonialism". Discuss.
18. Elaborate on the complexities of Post humanism.
19. Discuss the fundamental questions raised by Dipesh Chakrabarty in "The Climate of History : Four Theses".



Group – B

20. Elaborate on the concept of Third Space in Literature. Culture and Criticism.
21. "The Concepts of Modernism and Post modernism are of different vintage". Discuss.
22. "Post colonialism foregrounds questions of cultural difference and diversity and examines their treatment in relevant literary works". Discuss.

(2 × 15 = 30 Marks)

IV. Answer any **one** of the following question in about **150** words.

Present the main argument in the given passage in not more than two sentences and attempt a one-page critical note on the passage.

23. Aristotle called drama "imitated human action". But because his meaning of imitation is in doubt, the phrase is not as simple as it seems, J.M. Manly saw three necessary elements in drama (1) a story (2) told in action (3) by actors who impersonate the characters. This admits such forms as PANTOMIME, but many believe that spoken dialogue must be present.

Drama arose from religious ceremonial. Greek comedy developed from those phases of the DIONYSIAN rites that dealt with the theme of fertility. Greek tragedy came from the Dionysian rites dealing with Life and death; and MEDIEVAL DRAMA arose out of rites commemorating the birth and the resurrection of Christ. These three origins seem independent of one another. The word comedy is based on a word meaning "revel," and early Greek comedy preserved in the actors costumes evidences of the ancient phallic ceremonies. Comedy developed away from this primitive display of sex interest in the direction of greater decorum and seriousness, though the OLD COMEDY was gross in character. SATIRE became an element of comedy as early as the sixth century B.C.



24. Attempts to understand the political, social and experiential implications of the changes have underpinned what we can think of as a second use of the term globalization. It refers to the increasingly large and multidisciplinary body of intellectual work. It is possible to begin to list some of the theoretical concepts and intellectual frames synonymous with this work. Studies of globalization have explored the implications of disarticulation of politics from space and place known as 'deterritorialization' or 'disembedding'. The dialectical intermingling of the 'local' and the 'global' the pervasive interpenetration of these two dichotomous axes of globalization, has been described using the neologism of the 'glocal'. The constantly shifting topologies and movements of technology, people and money that globalization involves have been described using the language of 'scapes' and 'flows'. Our connections with people in ever more remote locations have produced a social 'distanciation' while, at the same time, improved travel networks seem to banish distance through the compression' of space.

25. Late August, given heavy rain and sun

For a full week the blackberries would ripen.

At first, just one, a glossy purple clot

Among others, red, green, hard as a knot.

You ate that first one and its flesh was sweet

Like thickened wine: summer's blood was in it

Leaving stains upon the tongue and lust for

Picking. Then red ones inked up and that hunger

Sent us out with milk cans, pea tins, jam-pots

Where briars scratched and wet grass bleached our boots.

Round hayfields, cornfields and potato-drills

We trekked and picked until the cans were full,

Until the tinkling bottom had been covered

With green ones, and on top big dark blobs burned

Like a plate of eyes. Our hands were peppered

With thorn pricks, our palms sticky as Bluebeard's.

(1 × 10 = 10 Marks)

