



UE-7113

M. A. (Sem. IV) Examination, June - 2025

ENGLISH LITERATURE

PAPER-XIII - MAEN-CC-401

Contemporary Critical Theory

Time Allowed : Three Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

This question paper contains two sections as under :

Section-A

Max. Marks-20

Will carry 20 marks with 01 compulsory question comprising 10 short answer type questions taking two questions from each unit. Each question shall be of two marks. Word limit - 20 words.

Section-B

Max. Marks-80

Will carry 80 marks, equally divided into five long answer type questions. Paper setter shall be advised to set two questions from each unit and students are instructed to attempt five questions by selecting one question from each unit.

SECTION - A

- 1
- (i) What does Derrida mean by the 'Rupture' in the idea of structure within western thought?
 - (ii) How does Jung differentiate between psychological and visionary literature?
 - (iii) According to Spivak, why can't the subaltern 'Speak' is dominant discourse?
 - (iv) What is meant by 'hybridity' in Bhabha's post colonial theory?
 - (v) What is the difference between feminist critique and gynocriticism as proposed by Showalter?
 - (vi) How does Beauvoir critique the myth of the 'eternal feminine'?
 - (vii) What does Beauvoir mean when she says that woman is defined as 'the other'?
 - (viii) How does Glotfelty define ecocriticism in her introduction?
 - (ix) Why does Glotfelty argue that literary studies need to engage with environmental issues?
 - (x) Why does Showalter advocate for a separate tradition of women's writing?

SECTION - B

Answer the following questions in 400-500 words.
All questions carry equal marks :

16×5=80

UNIT - I

- 2** Examine Derrida's deconstruction of the concept of 'Structure' and 'Center' in western metaphysics. How does this critique open up the field for post-structural thinking?

OR

Discuss the implications of Derrida's idea of 'free play' of signs for literary and philosophical discourse. How does this challenge the notion of fixed meaning?

UNIT - II

- 3** Discuss Carl Jung's theory of the collective unconscious and archetypes. How does it help in interpreting literary texts beyond the individual psyche?

OR

How does Jung explain the relationship between the writer's unconscious mind and the creative process? Discuss with reference to his theory of individuation and the symbolic function of literature.

UNIT - III

- 4 Discuss the meaning and implications of the phrase 'The subaltern cannot speak'. How does this reflect on issues of voice, power and representation in postcolonial discourse?

OR

Examine Bhabha's view of Nationalism as ambivalent and constructed. How does his theory help us understand the complexities of postcolonial identities?

UNIT -IV

- 5 Showalter argues for a specifically female literary tradition. Discuss the cultural and historical implications of this claim with suitable examples.

OR

Examine Beauvoir's critique of the myth of femininity. How does she expose the constructed nature of gender through philosophical and literary examples?

UNIT -V

- 6 Critically analyse the marginalization of environmental concerns in traditional literary studies as discussed by Glotfelty. How does ecocriticism seek to redefine the role of literature in the context of ecological crisis?

OR

Discuss the importance of applying ecological perspectives to literary studies. In what ways does Glotfelty propose that literature can respond to or influence ecological awareness?