

Maulana Azad National Urdu University
Directorate of Distance Education
M.A. English 2nd Year
Annual Batch

Paper -5: Literary Criticism and Theory

Assignment 1

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Explain the difference between critique and criticism.
2. Explain in detail 'rasa theory' and 'dhvani theory'.
3. Discuss I.A. Richard's *Practical Criticism*.
4. Discuss the contribution of Cleanth Brook to literary theory and practice.

Assignment 2

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Discuss the ideological implication of Marxism.
2. Throw some light on the salient features of feministic criticism.
3. Write a detailed note on Structuralism and Post-Structuralism.
4. What are the three 'orders' put forward by Lacan.

Paper -6: American Literature

Assignment 1

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. How were puritans different from the first European settlers in America?
2. Critically comment on the theme of the novel *The Scarlet Letter*.
3. Discuss Mark Twain as a novelist.
4. Discuss some of the prose writers of American literature.

Assignment 2

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Discuss Walt Whitman as a poet.

2. Discuss Robert Frost as a poet of nature.
3. Comment on the distinguishing features of the American Short story.
4. Explain the theme of Identity in the *Hairy Ape*.

Paper -7: Indian English Literature

Assignment 1

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. When and why did Gandhi write the *Hind Swaraj* and why was it banned.
2. Asses the state of the Indian English novel after 1980.
3. Place Raja Rao in the context of the evolution of Indian writing in English.
4. Discuss the main themes in the novel *Clear Light of the Day*.

Assignment 2

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Discuss R.K Narayan as a novelist.
2. Write a detailed note on Shashi Deshpande as a short story writer.
3. Describe briefly the poetic career and achievements of Sarojini Naidu.
4. Write an essay on Keki N. Daaruwalla and his poetry.

Paper -8: New Literatures in English

Assignment 1

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Write a detailed note on 'Commonwealth Literature'.
2. Comment on the ideological nature of African Literature.
3. Write a note on the political activism of Wole Soyinka.
4. What are the various political connotations of the title *Ice Candy-Man*.

Assignment 2

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Discuss V.S. Naipaul as a novelist.

2. Write a detailed note on Caribbean poetry.
3. Discuss Patrick White's contribution to Australian Literature.
4. Discuss Margaret Laurence as a novelist.

Paper -9: Australian Literature

Assignment 1

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Discuss the theme of multiculturalism in Australian Literature.
2. What are some of the prominent themes prevalent in Australian Poetry? Discuss.
3. Who would you credit for the establishment of the short story as a genre?
4. What are the various socio-political writing trends that have affected the writings of Australian literature.

Assignment 2

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Comment on the Rise and Development of Australian Novel.
2. Discuss Less Murray as a poet.
3. Discuss David Malouf's contribution to Australian Literature.
4. Write a detailed note on Australian Drama.

Paper -10: English Studies in India

Assignment 1

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Examine the attempts made by the several Education Commissions to displace English as the medium of instruction by Indian languages in the post-independence era.
2. Discuss the role of Hindu College in bringing Henry L. Derozio into the limelight of the intellectual world of early nineteenth century Calcutta.
3. Why do you think Bankim chose to write his first novel in English? Does the novel betray a sensibility that is informed by Western education? Give a reasoned answer.
4. Elucidate the ways in which English can be usefully 'nativised'?

Assignment 2

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Discuss English as a language of empowerment in our society.
2. What is the relationship between criticism and literature?
3. Comment on the direction Jawaharlal Nehru gave to the idea of change in India's freedom struggle.
4. How does Said define Orientalism? Why does he offer more than one definition?

Paper -11: American Novel

Assignment 1

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Discuss the characteristics of the 19th century American novel.
2. What do you understand by the term 'American Renaissance'? Outline its major achievements.
3. Is there any effectively developed pattern of Imagery, Symbolism, Allegory, and Fable in *The Great Gatsby*? Expatiate?
4. Attempt a critique of the plot-structure of *Light in August*.

Assignment 2

Answer any **two** of the following: 15 x2 =30 marks

1. Analyze Miller's Paris days and their contribution to his development as a writer.
2. Discuss the theme of pastorality in the novel *The Catcher in the Rye*.
3. Discuss how the narrator, Todd Andrews lends design and structure to *The Floating Opera*.
4. Comment on the cyclical structure of *House Made of Dawn*.