

# M.A. English 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

## 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. Critically comment on the concept of tragedy and elements of tragedy.
4. Give an account of Plato's mimesis.

### Assignment 2

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

1. Write a detailed note on Romantic Poetry and its themes.
2. Critically examine Wordsworth as a poet of nature.
3. Discuss I.A. Richard's *Practical Criticism*.
4. Discuss the contribution of Cleanth Brook to literary theory and practice.

### Assignment 3

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

1. Discuss the ideological implication of Marxism.
2. Comment on the significance of 'purpose' in literature. How does modern writing look at the idea of purpose?
3. Throw some light on the salient features of feministic criticism.
4. Analyse the strength and limitations of Woolf's theory with reference to class and gender.

### Assignment 4

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

1. Write a detailed note on Structuralism and Poststructuralism.
2. Discuss the concept of Deconstruction as propounded by Jacques Derrida.
3. What are the three 'orders' put forward by Lacan.
4. What is the main argument of Edward Said's *Orientalism*.

## 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. Describe and discuss the material circumstances which made the American Enlightenment possible.
3. Critically comment on the theme of the novel *The Scarlet Letter*.
4. Bring out the significance of the three scaffolds in the novel *The Scarlet Letter*.

### Assignment 2

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

1. Discuss Mark Twain as a novelist.
2. Discuss the theme of freedom and slavery in *Huckleberry Finn*.
3. Discuss some of the prose writers of American literature.
4. American Civil War did not inspire many great works of literature. Discuss.

### Assignment 3

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

1. Discuss Walt Whitman as a poet.
2. Critically examine the themes of Emily Dickinson's poetry.
3. Discuss Robert Frost as a poet of nature.
4. Discuss the contribution of Ezra Pound in literature.

### Assignment 4

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

1. Comment on the distinguishing features of the American Short story.
2. Discuss the various themes prevalent in the works of William Faulkner.
3. Explain the theme of Identity in the *Hairy Ape*.
4. Discuss *Death of a Salesman* as a tragedy.

## **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. Compare and contrast on autobiographies of Nehru and Chaudhari.
3. Asses the state of the Indian English novel after 1980.
4. Trace the influence of Gandhi on Indian fiction writers after the first world war.

### **Assignment 2**

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

1. Place Raja Rao in the context of the evolution of Indian writing in English.
2. Explain the main features of Raja Rao's narrative in *Kanthapura*.
3. Discuss the main themes in the novel *Clear Light of the Day*.
4. Comment on the contribution of Anita Desai to Indian English Fiction

### **Assignment 3**

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

1. Discuss R.K Narayan as a novelist.
2. Critically examine the theme of *GajjarHalwa* by Gita Hariharan
3. Write a detailed note on ShashiDeshpande as a short story writer.
4. Examine the Narrative technique employed by SubhadraSen Gupta in her short stories.

### **Assignment 4**

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

1. Describe briefly the poetic career and achievements of Sarojini Naidu
2. Give the critical appreciation of *Indian Summer* Poem and *Hunger*.
3. Write an essay on Keki .N. Daaruwalla and his poetry.
4. What according to you are the major themes of *Tara*. Discuss

## **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. What is the role of women's writing in the newly emerging literatures.
3. Comment on the ideological nature of African Literature.
4. What are Ngugi's views about the role of the writer in society? Discuss.

### **Assignment 2**

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

1. Write a note on the political activism of Wole Soyinka.
2. Discuss the major issues that Wole Soyinka has highlighted in *A Dance of Forests*.
3. What are the various political connotations of the title *Ice Candy-Man*.
4. Discuss *Ice Candy-Man* as a novel of partition.

### **Assignment 3**

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

1. Discuss V.S. Naipaul as a novelist.
2. Examine *A House for Mr. Biswas* as a diasporic novel.
3. Write a detailed note on Caribbean poetry.
4. Analyse the magical realist elements in 'Ananse'.

### **Assignment 4**

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

1. Discuss Patrick White's contribution to Australian Literature.
2. Critically examine the theme of the novel *The Solid Mandala*.
3. Discuss Margaret Laurence as a novelist.
4. Comment on the use of imagery in the novel *The Stone Angel*.

**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. Why is an awareness of oral traditions significant in the study of Australian Literature.
3. What are some of the prominent themes prevalent in Australian Poetry. Discuss.
4. Discuss Judith Wright as a poet.

**Assignment 2**

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

1. Who would you credit for the establishment of the short story as a genre?
2. Discuss the theme of *Chosen Vessel*.
3. What are the various socio-political writing trends that have affected the writings of Australian literature.
4. Examine the poem *Cock Crow* from a feminist point of view.

**Assignment 3**

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

1. Comment on the Rise and Development of Australian Novel.
2. Discuss the theme of Human relationship in the novel *Voss*.
3. Discuss Less Murray as a poet.
4. Give the critical appreciation of the poems 'Coming To' and 'Mister Man'

**Assignment 4**

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

1. Discuss David Malouf's contribution to Australian Literature.
2. Comment on the theme of *Remembering Babylon*.
3. Write a detailed note on Australian Drama.
4. Comment on the ending of the play *The Removalists*.

## **Paper -10: English Studies in India**

### **Assignment 1**

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

1. Comment on the introduction of English in India.
2. 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.
3. Discuss some of the circumstances that led to the emergence of English writings by Indians.
4. Discuss the role of Hindu College in bringing Henry Derozio into the limelight of the intellectual world of early nineteenth century Calcutta.

### **Assignment 2**

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

1. 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.
2. Discuss the way in which Matagini has been characterised in Rajmohan's Wife.
3. Elucidate the ways in which English can be usefully 'nativised'?
4. Write a critical note on the communicability of English literary writing in India.

### **Assignment 3**

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

1. Discuss the various stages of TELI
2. Discuss English as a language of empowerment in our society.
3. What were the implications of Macaulay's ideas on Education for India?
4. What is the relationship between criticism and literature?

### **Assignment 4**

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

1. Comment on the direction Jawaharlal Nehru gave to the idea of change in India's freedom struggle.
2. What are the salient features of Dalit writing? Do you agree that only a Dalit can write Dalit literature?
3. How does Said define Orientalism? Why does he offer more than one definition?
4. What according to Jan Mohamed is necessary for a study of colonialist literature fiction?

## **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. Comment on the romantic quality of the novel *The Last of the Mohicans*.
3. What do you understand by the term 'American Renaissance'? Outline its major achievements.
4. Describe Carrie's experiences in Chicago in the first week of her arrival.

## **Paper -11: American Novel**

### **Assignment 2**

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

1. What were the major political and social events that shaped the Twenties in America?
2. Is there any effectively developed pattern of Imagery, Symbolism, Allegory and Fable in *The Great Gatsby*. Expatriate?
3. How did the first world war affect American writers?
4. Attempt a critique of the plot-structure of *Light in August*.

## **Paper -11: American Novel**

### **Assignment 3**

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

1. Write an essay on the impact of Freud and psychoanalysis on the American writers.
2. Analyse Miller's Paris days and their contribution to his development as a writer.
3. Critically analyse the plot of the novel *The Catcher in the Rye*.
4. Discuss the theme of pastorality in the novel *The Catcher in the Rye*.

## **Paper -11: American Novel**

### **Assignment 4**

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

1. Explain the difference between fiction and metafiction as illustrated in Barth's novel, *Lost in a Funhouse*.
2. Discuss how the narrator, Todd Andrews lends design and structure to *The Floating Opera*.
3. Trace the origins of Native American fiction.
4. Comment on the cyclical structure of *House Made of Dawn*.