KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

Padmanath Gohainbaruah School of Humanities

HOME ASSIGNMENT FOR MASTER IN ENGLISH

FOURTH SEMESTER, 2019

N.B. The learners will have to collect receipt after submitting the assignment with the signature and seal of the collector of study centre and will have to keep with him/her till the declaration of result.

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Receipt

Received the assignment from Mr/Ms ……. Enrolment number ……of **4th Semester, 2019 MA in English** on …… ……..2019.

Date: Signature of collector with seal

COURSE 1: LITERARY AND CRITICAL THEORY I
(PGEG S4 - 01)

Total Marks: 50

[*Assignments are required to be written in your own language. Copying in toto from the learning materials will carry less score.*]

A. Answer the following questions within 50 words. Marks: 2x3=6

Q 1: What is Viktor Shklovsky famous for?

Q 2: How is the idea of 'structure' viewed under Structuralism?

Q 3: Comment on the term 'Subaltern' in Post-colonial Studies.

B. Answer the following questions within 100 words. Marks: 4x3=12

Q 1: "Reader Response Theory involves the responses of the readers to a text over a given period of time." Explain.

Q 2: Enumerate the basic premises of the French Feminist critics.

Q 3: What is meant by 'the classification on the basis of opposition' as seen by Levi Strauss?

C. Answer the following questions within 150-300 words. Marks: 6x2=12

Q 1: How did the Formalist critics react to Stalin's views on Literature?

Q 2: Cultural Materialism involves 'historical context, theoretical method, political commitment and textual analysis.' Discuss.

D. Answer the following questions within 300-500 words. Marks: 10x2=20

Q 1: Poststructuralism is both a continuation and critique of Structuralism. Elaborate with reference to the ideas of the Poststructuralist critics.

Q 2: In what ways, do you think, New Historicism and Cultural Materialism critique the notion of representation? Discuss.

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COURSE 2: LITERARY AND CRITICAL THEORY II
(PGEG S4 02)

Total Marks: 50

[*Assignments are required to be written in your own language. Copying in toto from the learning materials will carry less score.*]

A. Answer the following questions within 50 words. Marks: 2x3=6

Q 1: Why should we consider *The Courses in General Linguistics* to be significant?

Q 2: What does Roland Barthes mean by "The Death of the Author"?

Q 3: Why was Lacan expelled from the International Psychoanalytical Association?

B. Answer the following questions within 100 words. Marks: 4x3=12

Q 1: Write a short note on Logocentrism.

Q 2: Write a note on the concept of 'author' as seen by Michel Foucault?

Q 3: How does Toril Moi distinguish between feminist, female and feminine? Elaborate.

C. Answer the following questions within 150-300 words. Marks: 6x2=12

Q 1: What are some of the emergent themes of the essay "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction"?

Q 2: Estimate the contribution of Jakobson in the development of Structuralism.

D. Answer the following questions within 300-500 words. Marks: 10x2=20

Q 1: On what grounds, do you consider Saussure's "The Object of Study" as a pioneering text of Structuralist literary studies and modern linguistics? Discuss.

Q 2: Discuss Homi Bhabha's contributions to Postcolonial theory.

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COURSE 3: AMERICAN LITERATURE
(PGEG S4 03)

Total Marks: 50

[*Assignments are required to be written in your own language. Copying in toto from the learning materials will carry less score.*]

A. Answer the following questions within 50 words. Marks: 2x3=6

Q 1: What is meant by the term Transcendentalism in the context of American Literature?

Q 2: Mention some of the main themes in American Poetry.

Q 3: How does Hemingway perceive nature in his writing?

B. Answer the following questions within 100 words. Marks: 4x3=12

Q 1: What were the initial reasons of the settlers arriving in America?

Q 2: "Much Madness" expresses a strong sense of anger, frustration and suffering of a woman. Discuss.

Q 3: Why did the play *Desire Under the Elms* create controversy during its first staging?

C. Answer the following questions within 150-300 words. Marks: 6x2=12

Q 1: How did the American Civil War influence Whitman the person and the poet? Discuss.

Q 2: Discuss some features of American realism and modernism.

D. Answer the following questions within 300-500 words. Marks: 10x2=20

Q 1: Write a comprehensive note on Colonial American Literature with reference to the important authors.

Q 2: Discuss *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* as a panorama of American life.

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COURSE 4 (Option A): MODERN EUROPEAN LITERATURE

[PGEG S4 04(A)]

Total Marks: 50

[*Assignments are required to be written in your own language. Copying in toto from the learning materials will carry less score.*]

A. Answer the following questions within 50 words. Marks: 2X3=6

Q 1: Give an idea of impressionist literature.

Q 2: Briefly explain the significance of Dadaism and Surrealism as artistic movements of modern times.

Q 3: Give an example of the theatrical experimentations of Luigi Pirandello with reference to a play you have read.

B. Answer the following questions within 100 words. Marks: 4X3=12

Q 1: Give an outline of the story of the novel *Crime and Punishment*?

Q 2: What role did Max Brod play in reviving Kafka's works after his death?

Q 3: Discuss the major characteristics of an epic theatre with reference to *Mother Courage*?

C. Answer the following questions within 150-300 words. Marks: 6X2=12

Q 1: Pablo Neruda's "Ars Poetica" narrativises the experience of a creator, a poet or an artist at the moment of creativity". Discuss briefly with reference to the poem.

Q 2: What, according to you, does Kafka represent through the character of Gregor Samsa in his world famous story "Metamorphosis"?

D. Answer the following questions within 300-500 words. Marks: 10X2=20

Q 1: Why is Baudelaire considered a pioneer of literary modernism? Discuss in light of his poem "Correspondences".

Q 2: In what ways does Dostoevsky, critique the contemporary Russian society in his novels *Crime and Punishment*?

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COURSE 4 (Option B): LITERATURE FROM NORTH EAST INDIA (IN ENGLISH AND TRANSLATION)
[PGEG S4 04(B)]

Total Marks: 50

[*Assignments are required to be written in your own language. Copying in toto from the learning materials will carry less score.*]

A. Answer the following questions within 50 words. Marks: 2X3=6

Q 1: What, according to Prof. Hiren Gohain, is the idea of Decolonisation?

Q 2: Mention one important theme of the play *Chakravyuha.*

Q 3: What is Ngangom's view on poetry as reflected in his poem "Poetry"?

B. Answer the following questions within 100 words. Marks: 4X3=12

Q 1: Discuss the themes of the poems "The Conquest" and "Letter from Pahambir"?

Q 2: In what way is the poem "The Voice of the Mountain" a celebration of the mountains?

Q 3: Mention some of the distinctive features of Navakanta Barua as a modern Assamese poet.

C. Answer the following questions within 150-300 words. Marks: 6X2=12

Q 1: Chandrakanta Murasingh highlights the Kokborok language and its rich heritage. Discuss.

Q 2: Through the character Nibaran, Arun Sarma perhaps addresses the necessary isolation of an artist. Discuss.

D. Answer the following questions within 300-500 words. Marks: 10X2=20

Q 1: Do you think that the idea of 'North East Indian Literature' is acceptable? Justify your views.

Q 2: How does Iralu consider the Naga Political History against which she views herself as a writer?

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