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105 (CLT)

[20–HKPGDEO–M4S(O)21J]

MA 4th Semester (Old) Exam., 2020

ENGLISH

[MEG (S4) 13]

(Literary Criticism and Literary Theory)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer any *five* from the following questions (each in around *50* words) : 2×5=10

(a) What are the two prominent schools of formalist criticism?

(b) Write briefly on the concept of 'literariness'.

(c) State briefly about the connection between 'Structuralism' and 'Post-Structuralism'.

(d) Explain the two principal schools of thought related to 'reception theory'.

(e) Comment briefly on the idea of 'history' in 'New Historicism'.

(f) What does 'Literary Theory' usually study?

2. Answer any *three* from the following questions (each in around *150* words) : 4×3=12

(a) Discuss the emergence of feminism and mention the three 'waves' in the history of western feminism.

(b) Mention briefly some of the central concerns of post-colonial literary theory with reference of Peter Barry.

(c) Briefly discuss the two major schools of 'Reader Response Theory' and the theorists associated with them.

(d) Briefly summarise Michel Foucault's ideas of an author and 'his' functions.

3. Answer any *three* from the following questions (each in around *250* words) : 6×3=18

(a) Discuss 'Defamiliarization' as a key concept for Formalist literary criticism.

(b) Briefly discuss some of the key points regarding Ferdinand de Saussure's contributions to 'Structuralism'.

(c) Write a note on the term 'Post-Structuralism' adding your comments on the contributions of any two post-structuralist thinkers.

(d) Discuss the points of connection and points of difference between cultural materialism and 'Neo-historicism' as two major theories of the latter part of the 20th Century.

4. Answer any *four* from the following questions (each in around *500* words) : 10×4=40

(a) Write notes on any *two* of the following : 5×2=10

(i) Edward Said and 'Post-Colonialism'

(ii) Stanley Fish and 'Reader Response Criticism'

(iii) Sign, Signifier and Signified

(iv) Implied Reader and Implied Author

(b) Discuss in your own words the contributions of Roman Jakobson and Mikhail Bakhtin to the development of Russian Formalism.

(c) Write a comprehensive account of the dominant ideas of French Feminism and its major practitioners.

(d) Trace the development of 'Post-Colonialism' as a literary theory with your comments on some of its central concerns.

(e) How has the 'Reader-response and Reception Theory' changed literary studies from an author-centric approach to a reader-centric approach? Give a reasoned answer.

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