

Maulana Azad National Urdu University

Programme: M.A. English

IV Semester Examination, July-2023

Paper: MAEN401CCT Paper Title: Literary Theory and Criticism - II

Time: 3 Hours

Total Marks: 70

Instructions:

This Question paper consists of three parts: Part-A, Part-B and Part-C. Number of words to answer each question is only indicative. Attempt all parts.

Part-A contains 10 compulsory questions of multiple choice/fill in the blank/very short answer type questions. Answer all questions. Each question carries 1 mark. (10x1=10 Marks)

Part-B contains eight questions, of which students are supposed to answer five questions. Answer each question in approximately 200 words. Each question carries 06 marks. (5x6=30 Marks)

Part C- Contains five questions, of which students are supposed to answer three questions. Answer each question in approximately 500 words. Each question carries 10 marks. (3x10=30 Marks)

Part A

Question 1.

- i. Who amongst the following writers said that “the best art is political and you ought to make it unquestionably political and irrevocably beautiful at the same time.”
a) Hayden White b) TalalAsad c) Raymond Williams d) Toni Morrison
- ii. Which one of the following text is **not** analyzed by Spivak in her essay “Three Women’s Texts and a critique of Imperialism?”
a) Lucy b) Frankenstein c) Jane Eyre d) Wide Sargasso Sea
- iii. Raymond Williams calls his theoretical approach as _____.
a) Material Ecocriticism b) Material Dialogism
c) Cultural Materialism d) Historical Materialism
- iv. Which one of the following assumptions best expresses the position of Post-structuralist criticism?
a) Knowledge operates according to procedure that are axiomatic
b) Definite structures underlie empirical events
c) Apprehension of reality is a construct
d) Language is representational
- v. Which term does Derrida make use of to refer to the unresolvable difficulties a text may open up?
a) Erasure b) Binary opposition c) Difference d) Aporia

- vi. The title of Cleanth Brooks' book *The Well Wrought Urn: Studies in the Structure of Poetry* alludes to the poem _____.
- a) "Rime of the Ancient Mariner" by Coleridge
 b) "The Canonization" by John Donne
 c) "To His Coy Mistress" by Andrew Marvell
 d) "Ode to the West Wind" by P.B. Shelley
- vii. Which country was Tzvetan Todorov born in?
- a) Bulgaria b) Algeria c) France d) Belgium
- viii. Of the following theorists identify the one who has examined the narrative constructions of history
- a) Talal Asad b) Gayatri Spivak c) Hayden White d) Toni Morrison
- ix. The anthropologist most commonly associated with structuralist thinking is _____.
- a) Levi Strauss b) Margaret Mead c) Victor Turner d) James Clifford
- x. With whose theory are the terms "irony" and "paradox" associated with?
- a) Roland Barthes b) Cleanth Brooks c) Allen Tate d) Mikhail Bakhtin

Part B

2. Write a short note on Structuralism.
3. Explain the term "aporia".
4. Discuss how Raymond Williams challenges the established notions of literature in his work *Marxism and Literature*.
5. Discuss how Toni Morrison's essay "Rootedness: The Ancestor as Foundation" emphasizes the presence of the ancestor as an important feature of twentieth century black American literature.
6. Discuss how Gayatri Spivak in her essay "Three Women's Texts and a Critique of Imperialism" describes the figure of Antoinette in *Wide Sargasso Sea* as an "allegory of the general epistemic violence of imperialism".
7. How according to Hayden White the "transformation of chronicle into story" takes place?
8. How according to Talal Asad cultural translation takes place within relations of objectified culture.
9. Define "Detective Fiction" and briefly discuss the rules of detective fiction as summarized by Tzvetan Todorov.

Part C

10. Examine the various genres of detective fiction as discussed by Tzvetan Todorov in his essay “The Typology of Detective Fiction”.
11. How does Cleanth Brooks establish the importance of paradox in poetry in his essay “The Language of Paradox”.
12. How does Hayden White define a ‘Historical Work’ and what are its different levels of conceptualization.
13. Critically examine Derrida’s key ideas in his essay “Structure Sign and Play in the Discourse of Human Science”?
14. Discuss GayatriChakraborty Spivak as a postcolonial feminist critic in the light of her essay “Three Women’s Texts and a Critique of Imperialism”
