# MAULANA AZAD NATIONAL URDU UNIVERSITY

## Master of Arts English

#### III SEMESTER EXAMINATION, December 2023

Paper: MAEN301CCT, Literary Criticism and Theory-I

Time: 3 hours Max. Marks 70 marks

Note: 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 question. Answer all questions. Each question carries 1 mark. (10x1=10-marks)

Part-B contains 08 questions of which students are required to answer 05 questions. Answer each question in approximately 200 words. Each question carries 06 marks. (5x6=30 marks)

Part-C contains 05 questions of which students are required to answer 03 questions. Answer each question in approximately 500 words. Each question carries 10 marks. (3x10=30 marks)

#### Part-A

### 1. Choose the correct option for each question.

- i. In Plato's *The Republic*, what term does he use to describe the imitation or representation of the physical world in art?
  - a) Allegory
- b) Mimesis
- c) Catharsis
- d) Harmony
- ii. According to Aristotle's *Poetics*, what element does he consider the most essential for a successful tragedy?
  - a) Unity of time

- b) Tragic flaw (hamartia)
- c) Excessive dialogue
- d) Comic relief
- iii. What is Thomas Aquinas's specific contribution to literary criticism, as seen in his work *Summa Theologica*?
  - a) Advancement of ethical considerations in literary analysis
  - b) Emphasis on the importance of historical context
  - c) Formulation of key principles related to tragedy
  - d) Exploration of the relationship between theology and literature
- iv. In Sir Philip Sidney's "An Apology for Poetry," how does he respond to the four objections raised by Stephen Gosson?
  - a) He agrees with Gosson's objections and proposes modifications to poetry.
  - b) He dismisses Gosson's objections and defends the inherent virtues of poetry.
  - c) He acknowledges the shortcomings of poetry and suggests alternative art forms.
  - d) He adopts a neutral stance, neither supporting nor rejecting Gosson's objections.
- v. According to Samuel Johnson in his "Preface to Shakespeare", what is the primary purpose of literature?
  - a) Entertainment
- b) Instruction
- c) Satire
- d) Imitation
- vi. In Joseph Addison's essay "True and False Wit" from *The Spectator*, No. 62, which among the following is not given as an example of false wit?
  - a) Anagram
- c) Lipogram
- c) Chronogram
- d) Palindrome

- vii. Which poet among the following emphasises the use of everyday language in poetry?
  - a) William Wordsworth

b) S.T. Coleridge

c) Samuel Johnson

- d) John Dryden
- Who among the following critiques the role of the critic as an artist in the essay "The viii. Critic as Artist"?
  - a) Mathew Arnold
- b) Oscar Wilde
- c) John Dryden
- d) Mary

- Wollstonecraft
- Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels' literary critique in "The German Ideology" primarily ix. focuses on:
  - a) Tragedy
- b) Epic poetry
- c) Socio-political issues
- d) Aesthetics
- In which text does Mathew Arnold discuss the contemporary role and function of X. literary criticism?
  - a) "An Apology for Poetry"

- b) "Preface to Shakespeare"
- c) "The Function of Criticism at the Present Time" d) The Republic

#### Part B

- Discuss Plato's perspective on poetry focusing specifically on his concept of mimesis. 2.
- Examine Aristotle's view on the essential elements of tragedy, emphasising the 3. concept of catharsis.
- Analyze Sir Philip Sidney's defence of poetry in "An Apology for Poetry," with a 4. focus on his argument regarding the moral and educational value of poetry.
- Critically evaluate Joseph Addison's concept of true and false wit. 5.
- Analyse S.T. Coleridge's theory of imagination. 6.
- Assess Mathew Arnold's perspective on the function of criticism in the present time, 7. comparing his insights with that of TS Eliot.
- 8. Discuss how Oscar Wilde, in his essay "The Critic as Artist.", responds to Mathew Arnold's ideas on creativity and criticism.
- 9. Trace the development of the comparative method in literary criticism

#### Part C

- 10. Compare and contrast Plato and Aristotle's perspectives on the role of poetry in society, emphasising the differences in their views on mimesis and catharsis.
- Trace the evolution of literary criticism from the Renaissance to the Neoclassical 11. period, focusing on the contributions of Sidney, Dryden, and Johnson.
- 12. Evaluate the Enlightenment and Romantic perspectives on literature, emphasising the ideas presented by Addison, Wollstonecraft, Wordsworth, and Coleridge.
- 13. Critically analyse the socio-political critiques in the literary criticism of the Late Victorian Period, considering the works of Arnold, Marx, and Wilde.
- 14. Assess the influence of Romanticism on literary theory, citing examples from the Preface to the Lyrical Ballads and Coleridge's Biographia Literaria.