

# Maulana Azad National Urdu University

Programme: MA (English)

IV Semester Examination, April/May 2026

Course Title: **Introduction to Cultural Studies**

Course Code: **MAEN401DST**

Time: **3 Hours**

Max. Marks: **70**

**Note:** This question paper consists of three parts: Part–A, Part B and Part C. The 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 08 questions of which students are supposed 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 supposed to answer **03** questions. Answer each question in approximately 500 words. Each question carries 10 marks. **(3x10=30 marks)**

## Part-A

### 1. Answer the following:

- i. Cultural studies is an interdisciplinary field that primarily focuses on:
  - a. Analyzing cultural artifacts
  - b. Studying ancient civilizations
  - c. Examining biological aspects of culture
  - d. Exploring psychological perspectives on culture
- ii. The Frankfurt School is mainly associated with:
  - a. Structuralism
  - b. critical theory
  - c. postmodernism
  - d. formalism
- iii. Which of the following concepts is central to cultural studies?
  - a. Ethnocentrism
  - b. Manifest destiny
  - c. Cultural relativism
  - d. Social Darwinism
- iv. The “Encoding/Decoding” model was proposed by:
  - a. Michel Foucault
  - b. Stuart Hall
  - c. Derrida
  - d. Saussure
- v. Language plays a key role in:
  - a. Only communication
  - b. Only grammar learning
  - c. Translation
  - d. Identity formation
- vi. Stuart Hall, a prominent figure in cultural studies, is associated with which country?
  - a. United Kingdom
  - b. United States
  - c. France
  - d. Germany
- vii. Which theoretical approach in cultural studies emphasizes the role of power and domination in shaping culture?
  - a. Feminist theory
  - b. Structuralism
  - c. Psychoanalysis
  - d. Postcolonial theory
- viii. Cultural studies investigates the ways in which culture influences and is influenced by which of the following factors?
  - a. Gender, race, and class
  - b. Climate and geography
  - c. Genetic inheritance
  - d. Economic development
- ix. Pather Panchali was directed by:
  - a. M. S. Sathya
  - b. Satyajit Ray
  - c. T. J. Gnanavel
  - d. Shyam Benegal
- x. Jai Bhim (2021) deals with:
  - a. Romance
  - b. Mythology
  - c. Social justice and caste issues
  - d. Fantasy

## Part-B

2. Briefly comment on the “culture industry” with suitable examples.
3. What are the key arguments in Stuart Hall’s “Cultural Studies and its Theoretical Legacies”?
4. In what ways does Stuart Hall's work in cultural studies challenge traditional notions of culture and power?

5. Examine and contrast the narrative strategies utilized in Bhimayana and Sufi Comics.
6. Analyze Stuart Hall's contribution to Cultural Studies as a discipline.
7. Describe Racism in Cultural studies and the importance of graphic novels as a literary genre.
8. Explain the relationship between cinema and culture with suitable examples
9. How does the film *Jai Bhim* portray caste discrimination, legal injustice, and identity, and how does it contribute to social awareness and cultural discourse?

### **Part –C**

10. How does cultural studies help us understand the concept of the "wasteland of caste" and its implications for marginalized communities in society?
11. How does cultural studies analyze and interpret cultural artifacts? Discuss.
12. What is linguistic identity? How does language reflect culture? Explain.
13. Discuss the portrayal of rural life in *Pather Panchali* with relevant examples.
14. Provide a detailed commentary on the position and evolution of Urdu in Pre-Independent and Post-Independent India.

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