

Maulana Azad National Urdu University

Programme: BA (Major)

IV Semester Examination, April /May 2026

Course Title: **Stylistics and Discourse Analysis**

Course Code : **BNLX401CCT**

Time: **3 Hours**

Total Marks: **70**

Note: This question paper consists of (3) 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 (8) questions of which students are supposed to answer (5) questions. Answer each question in approximately 200 words. Each question carries 06 marks. **(5x6=30 marks)**

Part-C contains (5) questions of which students are supposed to answer (3) questions. Answer each question in approximately 500 words. Each question carries (10) marks. **(3x10=30 marks)**

Part A

1. Answer all the following questions.

- i. Which of the following is a characteristic of language?
a. It is fixed and unchanging b. It has no rules c. It is productive d. It is limited
- ii. Stylistics mainly studies:
a. Historical development of language b. Language use in literary texts
c. Biological aspects of speech d. Language acquisition
- iii. Which of the following is an example of assonance?
a. Big bad boy b. The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain v. Tick-tock d. Silence speaks
- iv. Foregrounding in literature refers to:
a. Ignoring linguistic features b. Highlighting certain elements of a text
c. Simplifying language d. Using only simple sentences
- v. “The silence thundered” is an example of:
a. Literal meaning b. Semantic deviation c. Alliteration d. Consonance
- vi. Discourse can be defined as:
a. A single word b. Language beyond the sentence
c. A list of unrelated sentences d. Only written language
- vii. Cohesion refers to:
a. Emotional meaning b. Logical organization of ideas
c. Grammatical linking of sentences d. Cultural interpretation
- viii. Which approach focuses on context and social factors?
a. Formalist b. Structuralist c. Functionalist d. Phonological
- ix. In conversation analysis, adjacency pairs include:
a. Nouns and verbs b. Questions and answers c. Words and phrases d. Sounds and letters
- x. A discourse marker is:
a. A grammatical error b. A word that organizes discourse c. A poetic device d. A sound pattern

Part B

2. Explain the relationship between language and literature with examples.
3. What is foregrounding? Discuss its role in literary texts.
4. Describe phonological stylistic devices with suitable examples.
5. What is the difference between cohesion and coherence?
6. Explain style as choice with examples.
7. What is discourse? Explain the concept of “language above the sentence.”
8. Discuss the formalist approach to discourse analysis.
9. What is conversation analysis? Explain its key features.

Part C

10. Discuss the relationship between linguistics and stylistics. How does linguistics help in literary analysis?
11. Explain phonological and syntactic stylistic devices in detail with examples.
12. Compare formalist and functionalist approaches to discourse analysis with suitable examples.
13. Conduct a stylistic analysis of the following lines:
 “The night is dark and full of whispers,
 The wind sings softly through the trees.”
 (Analyse phonological, syntactic, and lexical features)
14. Conduct a discourse analysis of the following passage:

“Well, I was planning to visit the library today, but it started raining. So, I decided to stay at home. Anyway, I will go tomorrow because I need the books”.
(Comment on how meaning is constructed in the text, focussing on cohesion, coherence, and discourse markers)
