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6 SEM TDC DSE ENG (CBCS) 1 (H/NH)

2025

(May)

ENGLISH

(Discipline Specific Elective)

(For Honours and Non-Honours)

Paper : DSE-1

(**Literary Theory**)

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

UNIT—I

(**Marxism**)

1. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15

- (a) "All men are intellectuals, one could therefore say : but not all men have in society the function of intellectuals." Discuss the significance of this statement with special reference to the distinction Gramsci makes between traditional and organic intellectuals.

(2)

- (b) How does Gramsci distinguish 'civil society' and 'political society' in connection to the function of intellectuals in society?
- (c) Discuss Althusser's concept of interpellation. How does ideology interpellate concrete individuals as concrete subjects?
2. Answer briefly any *one* of the following questions : 5
- (a) What role do intellectuals play in the maintenance or subversion of hegemonic control?
- (b) How are repressive state apparatuses and ideological state apparatuses differentiated from each other?
- (c) How are the conditions of production maintained? What factors are needed for that maintenance?

UNIT—II

(Feminism)

3. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15
- (a) How does Irigaray contend that homosexuality and homosociality exist in society? Examine critically.
- (b) 'When the Goods Get Together' establishes a strong set of connections between a phallogocentric economy of desire and an economic model of trade and exchange. Explain and comment on the significance of this connection between sexuality and commerce.

(3)

- (c) How do you respond to the idea of female literary tradition in relation to Showalter's essay *Twenty Years on : A Literature of Their Own Revisited?*
4. Answer briefly any *one* of the following questions : 5
- (a) How does Showalter respond to Toril Moi's criticism of her *A Literature of Their Own?*
- (b) Write a short note on Showalter's idea of 'New Women'.
- (c) Write a short note on Irigaray's critique of Freud.

UNIT—III

(Post-structuralism)

5. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15
- (a) Discuss, after Derrida, the idea of center, giving examples to describe the role of the center in governing the operations without any structure.
- (b) How does Derrida bring Claude Lévi-Strauss to his discussion of logocentrism and contradiction of the structuralist thought?
- (c) How does Foucault deal with the concepts of ideology and repression in the elaboration of his theory of power?

6. Answer briefly any *one* of the following questions : 5
- (a) Write a short note on Derrida's idea of 'play'.
 - (b) Briefly outline Foucault's theory of power.
 - (c) How does Foucault conceive of the relationship among truth, power and the position of the intellectual in society?

UNIT—IV

(Post-Colonial Studies)

7. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15
- (a) How does Gandhi elaborate the idea of passive resistance in *Hind Swaraj*?
 - (b) Discuss, after Edward Said, the idea of Orientalism as propounded and critiqued in the essay *The Scope of Orientalism*.
 - (c) What, according to Aijaz Ahmad, are the institutional, historical and linguistic difficulties in assuming that Indian literature is an always already existent category? Discuss.
8. Answer briefly any *one* of the following questions : 5
- (a) Why does Gandhi say, "India cannot cease to be one nation"?
 - (b) How, according to Said, does the West control and manage 'The Orient'?
 - (c) How does Ahmad link Indian culture and languages with 'Indian Literature'?

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