



BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

Library
Brainware University
398, Ramkrishnapur Road, Barasat
Kolkata, West Bengal-700125

Term End Examination 2024-2025

Programme – M.A.(ENG)-2021/M.A.(ENG)-2022/M.A.(ENG)-2023

Course Name – Non-British Literature

Course Code - MELS303

(Semester III)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2:30 Hours

[The figure in the margin indicates full marks. Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.]

Group-A

(Multiple Choice Type Question)

1 x 15=15

1. *Choose the correct alternative from the following :*

- (i) Graeme Turner argues that novels are of specific value to post-colonial studies. Choose which rationale he offers for this argument.
 - a) That there have been too many political science theories based purely on the works of academics
 - b) That because stories and novels are generated by culture they therefore produce meanings and significances that are indicative of that culture
 - c) Novels and stories are more enjoyable to read than works of theory so post-colonial studies will garner more followers using this method
 - d) Turner didn't have access to academic works when he was writing
- (ii) Sylvia Plath's "Lady Lazarus" is a part of her posthumous collection. Identify from the following the correct option.
 - a) Ariel
 - b) The Colossus
 - c) The Bell Jar
 - d) None of these
- (iii) " So, so, Herr Doktor/So, so Herr Enemy" - Select the figure of speech used by Plath in these lines to address those doctors.
 - a) Assonance
 - b) Alliteration
 - c) Metaphor
 - d) Apostrophe
- (iv) The play A Streetcar Named Desire begins and ends with two seasons. Identify from the following the correct option.
 - a) Autumn and Winter
 - b) Summer and Spring
 - c) Summer and Autumn
 - d) Spring and Autumn
- (v) State the significance of the tree on Sethe's back in the novel Beloved.
 - a) It represents her connection to nature
 - b) It symbolizes her suffering and the scars of slavery
 - c) It is a metaphor for her longing for freedom
 - d) It represents her spiritual beliefs

(vi) Which of the following options best explains the role played by Baby Suggs in Toni Morrison's novel *Beloved*.

- a) She is a preacher who provides spiritual guidance
- b) She is a runaway slave who helps Sethe escape
- c) She is a white abolitionist who supports the Underground Railroad
- d) She is a doctor who tends to the sick and injured

(vii) Identify from the following options the setting of Toni Morrison's *Beloved*.

- a) Mississippi
- b) Ohio
- c) Louisiana
- d) Georgia

(viii) Analyze from the following options, how the theme of mother-daughter relationships is portrayed in *Beloved*.

- a) The novel depicts strained relationships between mothers and daughters due to slavery's legacy
- b) The novel emphasizes the idealized bond between mothers and daughters
- c) The novel doesn't explore mother-daughter relationships significantly
- d) The novel focuses on father-son relationships instead

(ix) Evaluate the role of the community in *Beloved* and how it provides support to the characters.

- a) The community is a source of healing and solidarity for the characters, offering them refuge and understanding
- b) The community is portrayed as indifferent and unsupportive towards the characters' struggles
- c) The community's role is not significant in the novel
- d) The community actively works against the characters, contributing to their hardships

(x) Which of the following options best defines the concept of Manifest Destiny in the American context?

- a) A cultural belief in the 19th-century United States that American settlers were destined to expand across North America.
- b) A cultural belief in the 19th-century United States that America was the land of everyone who dreamed of a better life.
- c) A cultural belief in the 19th-century United States that American settlers were destined to expand globally.
- d) All of these

(xi) Choose which of the following is true for the canon of American literature.

- a) The canon of American literature is a very inclusive paradigm that includes white, non-white, native and all forms of mainstream and marginal literatures.
- b) The canon of American literature is ever evolving, starting off with white only literature and slowly with time assimilating other marginal literatures
- c) Both of these
- d) None of these

(xii) Select which of the following best describes the multiculturalism of America.

- a) Melting Pot
- b) Salad Bowl
- c) Martini Cocktail
- d) Multicoloured Cocktail

(xiii) Determine the correct relation between the following statements: Statement I: The idea that Caribbean literature is an essentially European creation is in-fact correct when seen against the information that the earliest Caribbean communities lacked a written script. Statement II: The rejection of oral traditions as being devoid of literary values can be seen as highly Eurocentric and demeaning.

- a) Statement I is true
- b) Statement II is true
- c) Both statements are true
- d) No statement is true

(xiv) Determine the correct relation between the following statements: Statement I: The paradox of indentureship can be seen to be an important trope in understanding the highly hybrid and multicultural oeuvre of modern Caribbean culture. Statement II: The very word Caribbean encompasses the amalgamation of the African slave heritage into the native cultures.

- a) Statement I is true
- b) Statement II is true

- c) Both statements are true
 (xv) Which of the following statements is untrue as a definition of Caribbean music?
 a) It refers to a trope that arose out of the mundane necessities of speaking and communicating
 b) It refers to a trope that looked to commercialise itself to proclaim itself as a counterpart of the Western canon of music
 c) It is a trope that has its roots in the resistance of the Afro-Caribbean slaves in the Plantations historically
 d) No statement is true
 d) All statements are untrue

Library
Brainware University
 398, Ramkrishnapur Road, Barasat
 Kolkata, West Bengal-700125

Group-B
 (Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. Identify and describe two major themes explored in 'Beloved'. (3)
3. Explain how the 1976 West Indies tour of England became a defining moment in the creation of a universal Caribbean identity. (3)
4. Enumerate the difference in connotation on a socio-cultural level in the usage of the term West Indian as opposed to Caribbean. (3)
5. Infer the significance of the Haitian Goddess of love Erzulie as a motif in Edwidge Danticat's novel Breath, Eyes, Memory. (3)
6. Appraise the historical significance of Derek Walcott's play "Henri Christophe: A Chronicle in Seven Scenes." (3)

OR

Evaluate the role of language and expression in the poem "Lady Lazarus". How does the speaker use words and her own voice to assert her identity and convey her emotions? (3)

Group-C
 (Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. Evaluate the role of motherhood in Beloved. How does Sethe's experience as a mother reflect broader themes of love, sacrifice, and protection? (5)
8. Critique the idea of ethnonationalism through a close reading of the canon of Caribbean literature and Caribbean socio-cultural heritage. (5)
9. Negotiate Edwidge Danticat's novel Breath, Eyes, Memory as testament of diasporic anxiety and homelessness. (5)
10. The canon of Caribbean music is a music of resistance- Explain. (5)
11. Examine the interpersonal relationships of the three female characters of Edwidge Danticat's novel Breath, Eyes, Memory. (5)
12. Analyze the impact of Beloved's presence on the dynamics within Sethe's household. How does Beloved's character serve as a catalyst for both conflict and healing? (5)

OR

Analyze the significance of the character Paul D in 'Beloved'. How does his past at Sweet Home and his relationship with Sethe shape his actions and decisions throughout the story? (5)
