



BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

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

Term End Examination 2024-2025

Programme – B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2020/B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2021/B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2022

Course Name – Literary Criticism

Course Code - BELS504A

(Semester V)

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) Identify which of the following statement is incorrect in relation to Literary Criticism.

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) Literary criticism is the exercise of judgement on works of literature. | b) Literary criticism is the study, discussion, evaluation, and interpretation of literature. |
| c) Literary criticism helps us to understand the relationship between authors, readers, and literary texts. | d) Literary criticism does not deal with different dimensions of literature. |

(ii) Infer the incorrect statement with reference to Eliot's essay: Statement I: Throughout the essay, Eliot blames contemporary poets for not being traditional enough and poetry readers for not being critical enough. Statement II: Eliot points out that being critical is as inevitable as breathing, and that it would be beneficial for a reader to put into words the feelings and thoughts they naturally have while reading anything.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| a) Only I | b) Only II |
| c) Both I and II | d) None of these |

(iii) When it comes to analysis, recall which of the following, the critic should not avoid.

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) Being focused on the stylistic features of the argument alone | b) Being focused on fault finding in a blatant attempt to prove themselves superior |
| c) Being focused on extending the arguments through proper citations of evidence and explanations | d) None of these |

(iv) Choose how plot is described in Poetics.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| a) The soul of tragedy. | b) The art of tragedy |
| c) The magnitude of tragedy | d) None of these |

(v) Identify the scene which Coleridge comments on, in the beginning of Notes on Macbeth.

- a) The murder scene
c) The porter scene
- b) The opening scene
d) None of these
- (vi) Identify the literary critic that Coleridge refers to in Notes on Macbeth.
a) Plato
c) Alexander Pope
b) William Warburton
d) None of these
- (vii) Select what do we infer by the main idea of a text.
a) The author's personal opinions
c) A summary of the entire text
b) The central theme or key message of the text
d) The conclusion of the text
- (viii) Identify what does feminist literary criticism primarily seek to explore.
a) The influence of weather on literary works
c) The financial success of authors
b) The portrayal of women in literature and the representation of gender issues
d) The physical attributes of literary characters
- (ix) Identify what does Fanon criticize the post-colonial bourgeoisie for in 'The Wretched of the Earth.'
a) Supporting the peasantry
c) Fighting for true liberation
b) Mimicking the colonizer
d) Reforming the economy
- (x) In both 'The Wretched of the Earth' and 'Black Skin, White Masks,' Fanon examines the impact of colonization on women. Examine how does Fanon believe women experience colonial oppression differently from men.
a) Women are completely shielded from the effects of colonization.
c) Women are more likely to lead revolutionary struggles.
b) Women experience dual oppression from both colonialism and patriarchy within their own societies.
d) Women benefit more from colonial rule due to their proximity to white women.
- (xi) In 'The Madwoman in the Attic,' predict who is the "madwoman" a symbolic representation of.
a) Women's creativity and freedom
c) Women's adherence to societal norms
b) Women's repressed anger and rebellion
d) Men's control over literature
- (xii) Predict what do Gilbert and Gubar mean by "anxiety of authorship".
a) A writer's fear of public speaking
c) A female writer's fear of not having literary models
b) A writer's fear of not living up to male predecessors
d) A writer's fear of being rejected by publishers
- (xiii) Indicate the relationship between creativity and female identity in 'The Madwoman in the Attic.'
a) Women's creativity is often celebrated in society.
c) Women's creativity is nurtured in the family.
b) Women's creativity is viewed as threatening by patriarchal norms.
d) Creativity has no connection to female identity.
- (xiv) Cite what does Brooks argue about the importance of historical and biographical contexts in analyzing poetry.
a) They are essential for a complete understanding
c) They are irrelevant and distracting
b) They should be considered only after analyzing the text
d) They are secondary to understanding the poem's form
- (xv) Illustrate Brooks' view on how poems should be interpreted in relation to their cultural and historical context.
a) Cultural context is crucial for interpretation
b) Historical background always enhances understanding

- c) Poems should be understood independent of context d) Context is useful but secondary to textual analysis

Group-B
(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. Describe what does Coleridge state about Macbeth yielding to his temptation in his criticism "Notes on *Macbeth*". (3)
3. Infer how Fanon describes the process of decolonization in 'The Wretched of the Earth'. (3)
4. State the central argument of Gilbert and Gubar's 'The Madwoman in the Attic.' (3)
5. Examine why does Cleanth Brooks emphasize the unity of form and content in poetry. (3)
6. Analyse Eliot's notion of 'tradition' in his essay 'Tradition and the Individual Talent'. (3)

OR

- Evaluate Eliot's assertion, poetry is "not a turning loose of emotion but an escape from emotion". (3)

Group-C
(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. Critically evaluate Coleridge's opinions on Shakespeare's creation of the witches in 'Notes on *Macbeth*.' (5)
8. Analyze the principles of literary criticism. (5)
9. Discuss Eliot's views on Individual Talent in relation to tradition. (5)
10. Discuss the concept of "national culture" in 'The Wretched of the Earth.' Explain how does Fanon argue that culture must be transformed in the process of decolonization. (5)
11. Write about the concept of imitation. How does it vary in essence according to Plato and Aristotle. (5)
12. Determine how the idea of seclusion is connected to unpaid domestic labour and limited mobility of women. (5)

OR

- Analyze Eliot's assertion that Coleridge is the greatest critic with reference to the essays you have read. (5)
