



# BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

**Term End Examination 2022**  
**Programme – B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2020**  
**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) Choose the correct option with reference to the functions of criticism.

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|---|---|
| a) The function of literary criticism is to examine the merits and demerits or defects of a work of art and finally to evaluate its worth.  | b) The chief function of criticism is to enlighten and stimulate. |
| c) Even though modern literary theorising and criticism emerged during the 19th century, both attained greater heights in the 20th century. | d) All of the above   |

(ii) Examine the statements and choose the correct option: Statement I: The Biographia is an eclectic work, combining intellectual autobiography, philosophy, and literary theory. Statement II: Some critics have praised the insight and originality of this work, viewing Coleridge as the first English critic to build literary criticism on a philosophical foundation.

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a) I is true but II is false | b) I is false but II is true |
| c) Both I and II are false   | d) Both I and II are true    |

(iii) Examine the statements and choose the correct option: Statement I: After The Sacred Wood was published in 1920, certain writers strongly contested T. S. Eliot's ideas about tradition and intellectual culture. Statement II: American poet William Carlos Williams admired Eliot as a cultural elitist.

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a) I is true but II is false | b) I is false but II is true |
| c) Both I and II are false   | d) Both I and II are true    |

(iv) Analyze the following statements and choose the correct one: Statement I: I. A. Richards' first independent and most influential book, The Principles of Literary Criticism, came out in 1924. Statement II: Though judging is often thought to be a critic's main business, it should be "the judgment which almost insensibly forms itself in a fair and clear mind, along with fresh knowledge".

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a) I is true but II is false | b) I is false but II is true |
| c) Both I and II are false   | d) Both I and II are true    |

- (v) Analyze the following statements and choose the incorrect one: Statement I: In Macbeth the poet's object was to raise the mind at once to the high tragic tone. Statement II: According to Coleridge, the true reason for the first appearance of the witches is to strike the key-note of the whole drama.
- a) Only I  
b) Only II  
c) Both I and II  
d) None of the above
- (vi) Identify which of the following is not cited by Kumkum Sangari as a factor in exploiting women's labour within households?
- a) The personal relations are built into exploitation since it operates within and remains inseparable from relationships of love, nurture and sexuality  
b) Since unpaid labour can be measured in time and money and is not connected with questions of human reproduction and survival, they are avoided and erased by the patriarchal ideologies that govern the family  
c) Women find it difficult to separate the personal from the structural and see themselves as independent outside of these exploitative frameworks of personal relationships that seek to exploit their labour  
d) Most domestic ideologies, prescribe, elevate and idealise those personal relations of wife, mother, daughter-in-law into which unpaid domestic labour is packaged
- (vii) With reference to Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, cite which of the following is not used to explain the differing stance towards bonds between men-men and women-women?
- a) The diacritical opposition between the homosocial and homosexual is much less rigorous and dichotomous when it comes to women than it is between men  
b) While relations and interconnections between women are rooted in emotions and sisterhood, men promoting the interests of other men in public is often set in a transactional context that bears no resemblance to a relationship between a loving gay couple  
c) Obligatory heterosexuality built into male dominated kinships creates homophobia as a natural result intended to preserve its own existence. For women the obligation is much more subtle and concealed.  
d) Patriarchal institutions of marriage, family, class celebrates homosexual urges amongst men while it condemns women for showing similar inclinations
- (viii) Which of the following statements is a true analysis of Bhabhaian Third Space?
- a) It is an overtly liminal devoid of any cultural appropriation  
b) It refers to a liminal space which lacks any potential of having cultural identity  
c) It refers to a liminal space that has the promise of renewed cultural appropriation  
d) None of the above
- (ix) Which of the following statements best analyses Achebe's critique of representation of the native African language system in *Heart of Darkness*?
- a) Achebe's opines that Conrad humanises the African linguistic system in his novella  
b) Achebe opines that Conrad subverts the native African linguistic system  
c) None of the above  
d) Both of the above
- (x) Identify what does the word 'criticism' etymologically mean?
- a) Appreciate  
b) Judgement  
c) Idealise  
d) Comment
- (xi) Select the wrong statement.
- 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.
- (xii) Which of the following concepts may help someone in the creation of their postcolonial acumen?

- a) Deconstruction  
c) Power/Knowledge
- b) Ambivalence  
d) All of the above
- (xiii) Chinua Achebe's essay "An Image of Africa: Racism in Josph Conrad's Heart of Darkness" may create which of the following intellectual understandings in its readers?
- a) Cartography of white academic cultural imperialism  
c) Both of the above
- b) The process of white cultural appropriation  
d) None of the above
- (xiv) How does Coleridge compare the opening of Hamlet and Macbeth in his lecture?
- a) Hamlet invokes to the imagination while Macbeth invokes to the intellect  
c) Hamlet is less tragic than Macbeth
- b) Hamlet invokes to the intellect while Macbeth invokes to the imagination  
d) Macbeth is less tragic than Hamlet
- (xv) Coleridge compares the witches in Macbeth with which characters from The Tempest?
- a) Ariel  
c) Both of the above
- b) Caliban  
d) None of the above

### Group-B

(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. Comment upon Conrad's representation of the African demographics in *Heart of Darkness*. (3)  
Discuss with reference to Chinua Achebe's critique of the same.
3. Analyse the term Post-Colonial Condition with reference to the Homi Bhabha's essay "Of Mimicry and Man: The Ambivalence of Colonial Discourse." (3)
4. Negotiate how Kumkum Sangari discusses the complications involved in studying domestic labour in the Indian context with the epistemological tools developed in the West? (3)
5. Develop the various pitfalls and limitations of the false sublime according to Longinus (3)

OR

Explicate upon the term Third Space with reference to the essay "Of Mimicry and Man: The Ambivalence of Colonial Discourse." (3)

6. Examine Nikki Sullivan's idea of the discursive construction of sexuality (3)

OR

How does Coleridge establish his argument in his criticism of Shakespeare? Answer with reference to his essay on Macbeth. (3)

### Group-C

(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. Solve why Sedgwick insists on referring to the fair youth sonnets as heterosexual even when she doesn't deny the erotic nature of the poet's relation to the male beloved? (5)
8. Analyze Eliot's assertion that Coleridge is the greatest critic with reference to the essays you have read. (5)

9. Comment upon the application of adjectives as a stylistic and cultural element by Conrad in *Heart of Darkness* as critiqued by Chinua Achebe. (5)

10. Describe the functions of criticism with reference to Arnold's essay. (5)

**OR**

Define Ambivalence with reference to Homi Bhabha's "Of Mimicry and Men." (5)

11. Discuss the main arguments of Coleridge in his essay on *Macbeth*. (5)

**OR**

Explain the central concerns of Coleridge with respect to his essay on *The Tempest*. (5)

12. Deduce how according to Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick the addition of a woman into the erotic dynamics of the later sonnets creates a sense of chaos (5)

**OR**

Compare Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick's treatment towards dileneating the question of self-identity and self-diversion in the youth and the lady (5)

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