



BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

Term End Examination 2023
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) When it comes to analysis recall the critic should not avoid which of the following?
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| 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 the above |
- (ii) Estimate critics like Sara Ahmed consider citations to be a political practice due to which of the following reasons?
- | | |
|--|---|
| a) Citations openly endorse the agenda of a particular political party | b) Citations are based on a practice of favouritism |
| c) Citations exhibit one's understanding of a topic and more one gets to know a particular subject the more extensive is the list of citations | d) Citations are invested in a history of thought and knowledge production where one group was always privileged over the other |
- (iii) Recognise which of the following reasons is related to the fact that plagiarism is unethical and an unacceptable academic crime?
- | | |
|---|--|
| a) Plagiarism creates a problem on part of the reviewer where if they are unaware of the true source they may approve the plagiarised piece | b) Plagiarism obscures the steps that went into creation of knowledge and hides the authentic source |
| c) Plagiarism leads to loss of the publisher's prestige and repute within the academia | d) Plagiarism leads to extra work on the part of the writer as they need to put into place measures that can pass someone else's work as their own |
- (iv) With reference to Nikki Sullivan's work, recognise the difference in the conception of homosexuality by sexologists Ulrichs and Richard von Kraft-Ebing?

- a) For Kraft-Ebing homosexuals were less developed in an evolutionary sense than the heterosexuals and occupied a more primitive form of existence while Ulrichs was not concerned with such evolutionary schema
- b) For Kraft-Ebing men who love men have a female soul within a male body, while for Ulrichs men loving men is simply a manifestation of childhood trauma
- c) Kraft-Ebing saw homosexuality as a fetish and something only sado-masochistic men indulged in while for Ulrichs homosexuality was seen as a marker of a progressive society
- d) Kraft-Ebing believed homosexuality was a disease or corruption that spread through contact while for Ulrichs homosexuality was congenital
- (v) Apply your knowledge to choose which of the following is true of Longinus ◆ idea of the effect of the sublime?
- a) Sublime appears as an aesthetic tool alone and has no other purpose but to bring about pleasure within the reader
- b) The sublime instills a religious feeling and devotion towards God in the people who experience it
- c) Sublime creates a feeling of such intense ecstasy that it has been compared to a feeling similar to the ones experienced during divine reverie
- d) Sublime leads to suspension of logic and reason and leaves people susceptible to manipulation by the authors
- (vi) Chart what according to Longinus was not a glaring flaw in the writers of his age?
- a) They were paying attention to classical styles of writing and being inspired by them
- b) They strived to remain mortal through not perfecting their art and creative talents and imbibing their writings with the same
- c) They were obsessed with including bombastic language in their narrative simply to appear intelligent
- d) They paid great deal of attention towards corrupting sophisticated and elegant minds that could harbour lofty thoughts
- (vii) With reference to the work of Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick explain which of the following assertion counters the argument that patriarchy structurally requires homophobia?
- a) Male homosexuality, according to Dover's evidence, was a widespread, licit, and very influential part of the ancient Greek culture
- b) Native American practice where an adult male who from childhood has taken on many aspects of a woman is regularly penetrated by an adult male to whom he has been socially and ceremonially married
- c) A practice amongst New Guinea tribesmen where men from age of eight to fifteen are regularly orally inseminated by the adults but who then go on to marry women
- d) None of the above
- (viii) Calculate which of the following in Longinus ◆ estimation would benefit the authors if they incorporated the sublime in their writing?
- a) They would be chastised for being too creative
- b) The richness of the traditional art forms would be lost in pursuit of innovation
- c) They would lead to unrestrained creativity which would destroy the subtlety of the art
- d) They would be immortalised in history and bring eternal fame for the writers
- (ix) Analyse the following statement and comment on the tone of the same from Chinua Achebe's "An Image of Africa: Racism in Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness": "In the case of the cannibals the incomprehensible grunts that had thus far served them for speech suddenly proved inadequate for Conrad's purpose of letting the European glimpse the unspeakable craving in their hearts."
- a) Ironical
- b) Problematising
- c) Both of the above
- d) None of the above
- (x) Which of the following statements is a true analysis of Bhabha's 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
- (xi) 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
- (xii) Which of the following concepts may help someone in the creation of their postcolonial acumen?
- a) Deconstruction b) Ambivalence
- c) Power/Knowledge d) All of the above
- (xiii) Identify the play with which Coleridge compares the opening of Macbeth in his lecture.
- a) Hamlet b) Othello
- c) Romeo and Juliet d) King Lear
- (xiv) Select the correct option with reference to the first publication of Eliot's 'Tradition and the Individual Talent'.
- a) The Sacred Wood b) The Egoist
- c) The Common Reader d) None of the above
- (xv) 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 b) The process of white cultural appropriation
- c) Both of the above d) None of the above

Group-B

(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. Examine Nikki Sullivan's idea of the discursive construction of sexuality (3)
3. Evaluate Eliot's assertion, poetry is "not a turning loose of emotion but an escape from emotion". (3)
4. Compose an account of Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick's critique of Rene Girad's postulation of erotic triangles (3)
5. Discuss the main thematic elements of Chinua Achebe's "An Image of Africa: Racism in Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*". (3)
6. Distinguish between criticism and theory. (3)

OR

- Explain Longinus' idea of the true sublime (3)

Group-C
(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. Racism in Heart of Darkness goes beyond the human and into the realm of topographical abstraction- Discuss with reference to Chinua Achebe's essay "An Image of Africa: Racism in Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*." (5)
8. Discuss the uncanny with reference to Bhabha's "Of Mimicry and Men." Refer to its application to the discourse of native identity. (5)
9. Compare Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick's treatment towards delineating the question of self-identity and self-diversion in the youth and the lady (5)
10. 'Eliot's essay champions impersonality over personality.' Justify. (5)
11. Recall why Sedgwick chooses to use Shakespeare's sonnets as one of the two novelistic texts that frame her study in *Between Men*? (5)

OR

Critically define Third Space and Liminality. (5)

12. Illustrate through examples how Sedgwick frames the discussion of asymmetric powers and desires in Shakespeare's sonnets? (5)

OR

Interpret through a reference to Kumkum Sangari's work how the domestic labour in India is mired within debates about caste and pollution? (5)
