



BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

Term End Examination 2025-2026

Programme – B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2023

Course Name – Postcolonial Literatures

Course Code - BEN60115

(Semester VI)

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 the author of "A Critique of Postcolonial Reason."

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| a) Bhabha | b) Said |
| c) Foucault | d) Spivak |

(ii) Select who coined the "Subaltern" and who popularised it.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a) Spivak and Gramsci | b) Gramsci and Spivak |
| c) Bhabha and Spivak | d) Said and Spivak |

(iii) Select who propounded the theory of "The Third Space."

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| a) Frantz Fanon | b) Homi Bhabha |
| c) Edward Said | d) Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak |

(iv) Identify who popularised the term "Orientalism."

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| a) Aimé Césaire | b) Edward Said |
| c) Josie Fanon | d) Malcolm X |

(v) Select the author of "Of Mimicry and Man."

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| a) Frantz Fanon | b) Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak |
| c) Homi K. Bhabha | d) Jacques Derrida |

(vi) Identify the untrue information regarding the poems of Derek Walcott.

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) Walcott has written a poem entitled "Jean Rhys" | b) In "A Far Cry From Africa" Walcott depicts his divided loyalties in the context of the Changuna Uprising |
| c) In "The Sadhu of Couva" Walcott refers to Diwali, Hanuman and the Ramayana | d) His poem "Goats and Monkeys" has an epigraph from Shakespeare's Othello |

(vii) Identify the poetic device is used in "A Far Cry from Africa".

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| a) irony | b) allusion |
| c) simile | d) metaphor |

(viii) Select the correct meaning of Kikuyu in "A Far Cry from Africa".

- a) an urban community of Kenya living in the region long before Europeans arrived b) a tribal people of Kenya living in the region long before Europeans arrived
- c) a tribal people of Sudan living in the region long before Europeans arrived d) a tribal people of Kenya living in the region long before Americans arrived
- (ix) Choose the correct number of stanzas in "A Far Cry from Africa".
- a) five stanzas b) four stanzas
- c) three stanzas d) six stanzas
- (x) Recognise the role of personification in the title of "A City's Death by Fire" by Derek Walcott.
- a) The personification in the title makes the poem less appealing. b) The personification in the title makes the poem all the more sad.
- c) The personification in the title makes the poem all the more astistic. d) The personification in the title makes the poem all the more happy.
- (xi) In his renowned work 'Orientalism' Edward Said argues how 'the orient' is portrayed in Western novels, media, and artwork. Infer how it is portrayed.
- a) A place prone to liberal democracy and revolutionary feminism. b) An accurate depiction of the modern day Middle East and Asia, meaning that scholars and academics can rely solely on these ancient works
- c) Too focused on historical facts and accurately portraying the experience of life in the region
- (xii) Explain how knowledge and power are related in Said's theory of Orientalism.
- a) Knowledge is independent of power b) Power suppresses all forms of knowledge
- c) Power eliminates cultural differences d) Knowledge about the Orient supports imperial domination
- (xiii) Identify the setting where Miss Rehana first meets Muhammad Ali in Rushdie's short story "Good Advice is Rarer than Rubies."
- a) A railway station b) A British Consulate gate
- c) A marketplace d) A court office
- (xiv) Explain why Muhammad Ali is surprised by Miss Rehana's behavior toward him in "Good Advice is Rarer than Rubies."
- a) She refuses to speak to him b) She offers him money without help
- c) She politely declines his paid services d) She insults him publicly
- (xv) Explain what Sissie symbolically represents in the narrative of "Our Sister Killjoy."
- a) Western assimilation b) Postcolonial resistance and critical consciousness
- c) Economic prosperity d) Religious devotion

Group-B

(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. Define postcolonialism. (3)
3. Interpret the significance of the title Our Sister Killjoy. (3)
4. How does Ngugi successfully apply the Fanonian and Marxist tradition in "Decolonising the Mind"? (3)
5. Discuss the significance of the title "A Far Cry from Africa". (3)
6. Analyse Miss Rehana's character as a subversion of the stereotypical migrant figure in Rushdie's short story "Good Advice is Rarer than Rubies." (3)

OR

Analyse what does Walcott mean in "A City's Death by Fire" by the lines: "All day I walked abroad among the rubble tales,/ Shocked at each wall that stood on the street like a liar;/" (3)

Loud was the bird-rocked sky, and all the clouds were bales/ Torn open by looting, and white,
in spite of the fire"

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

Group-C
(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. Critique the central message of "A Far Cry from Africa". (5)
8. Explain Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak's understanding of the term "Subaltern." (5)
9. Infer upon Ngugi's deconstruction of decolonisation in his work "Decolonising the Mind." (5)
10. Define Orientalism and how it shapes Western perceptions of the East in literature and culture? Provide an example of a text that portrays Orientalism. (5)
11. Justify the title "Voice of the Mountain". (5)
12. Analyse the concept of the Third Space in Bhabha's theoretical framework. (5)

OR

Examine Bhabha's theory of Mimicry and its ambivalent political effects. (5)
