

2026

(FYUGP)

(6th Semester)

ENGLISH

(MAJOR)

Paper : ENG C15

(Literary Theory)

Full Marks : 75

Pass Marks : 40%

Time : 3 hours

The questions are of equal value.

1. (a) Comment on the important and critical historical moments that were key to the development of literary theory.

Or

- (b) What is 'new criticism'? What concepts does it employ to analyze a text?

2. (a) Explain the concepts and role played by a 'Reader' in constructing meaning in literary interpretation.

Or

- (b) Compare and contrast Freud's and Lacan's theories of psychoanalysis and discuss their relevance to literary criticism.

3. (a) How does post-structuralism challenge the concepts of fixed meaning and authorial intent?

Or

- (b) What are the core arguments that shape and drive the new historicist approach towards literary texts?

4. (a) Explore the central ideas and contributions of key postcolonial theorists towards understanding the literary works.

Or

- (b) Attempt an essay on the early feminist thinkers and activists who have contributed to feminist theory.

5. (a) What is black aesthetics? How does it challenge the dominant ideologies of race, gender and class?

Or

- (b) Discuss how subalterns redefine agency of oppressed/marginalized groups within dominant structures.

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