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6 SEM TDC DSE ENG (CBCS) 1 (H/NH)

2025

(May)

ENGLISH

(Discipline Specific Elective)

(For Honours and Non-Honours)

Paper : DSE-1

(Literary Theory)

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

UNIT—I

(Marxism)

1. Answer any one of the following questions : 15

- (a) "All men are intellectuals, one could therefore say : but not all men have in society the function of intellectuals." Discuss the significance of this statement with special reference to the distinction Gramsci makes between traditional and organic intellectuals.

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(Turn Over)

- (b) How does Gramsci distinguish 'civil society' and 'political society' in connection to the function of intellectuals in society?
- (c) Discuss Althusser's concept of interpellation. How does ideology interpellate concrete individuals as concrete subjects?

2. Answer briefly any *one* of the following questions :

5

- (a) What role do intellectuals play in the maintenance or subversion of hegemonic control?
- (b) How are repressive state apparatuses and ideological state apparatuses differentiated from each other?
- (c) How are the conditions of production maintained? What factors are needed for that maintenance?

UNIT—II

(Feminism)

3. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15

- (a) How does Irigaray contend that homosexuality and homosociality exist in society? Examine critically.
- (b) 'When the Goods Get Together' establishes a strong set of connections between a phallogentric economy of desire and an economic model of trade and exchange. Explain and comment on the significance of this connection between sexuality and commerce.

- (c) How do you respond to the idea of female literary tradition in relation to Showalter's essay *Twenty Years on : A Literature of Their Own Revisited?*

4. Answer briefly any one of the following questions :

5

- (a) How does Showalter respond to Toril Moi's criticism of her *A Literature of Their Own*?
- (b) Write a short note on Showalter's idea of 'New Women'.
- (c) Write a short note on Irigaray's critique of Freud.

UNIT—III

(Post-structuralism)

5. Answer any one of the following questions : 15

- (a) Discuss, after Derrida, the idea of center, giving examples to describe the role of the center in governing the operations without any structure.
- (b) How does Derrida bring Claude Lévi-Strauss to his discussion of logocentrism and contradiction of the structuralist thought?
- (c) How does Foucault deal with the concepts of ideology and repression in the elaboration of his theory of power?

6. Answer briefly any *one* of the following questions :

5

- (a) Write a short note on Derrida's idea of 'play'.
- (b) Briefly outline Foucault's theory of power.
- (c) How does Foucault conceive of the relationship among truth, power and the position of the intellectual in society?

UNIT—IV

(Post-Colonial Studies)

7. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15

- (a) How does Gandhi elaborate the idea of passive resistance in *Hind Swaraj*?
- (b) Discuss, after Edward Said, the idea of Orientalism as propounded and critiqued in the essay *The Scope of Orientalism*.
- (c) What, according to Aijaz Ahmad, are the institutional, historical and linguistic difficulties in assuming that Indian literature is an always already existent category? Discuss.

8. Answer briefly any *one* of the following questions :

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- (a) Why does Gandhi say, "India cannot cease to be one nation"?
- (b) How, according to Said, does the West control and manage "The Orient"?
- (c) How does Ahmad link Indian culture and languages with 'Indian Literature'?

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