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St Aloysius College (Autonomous)

Mangaluru

Semester IV - P.G. Examination - M.A. English

May /June - 2023

POSTCOLONIALISM

Time: 3 Hours

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Max. Marks: 70

UNIT - I

I Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words each. (1x15=15)

1. How does Edward Said construct his definition of Orientalism? Cite any two contemporary events which either support or disprove Said's arguments.
2. What are the major arguments laid out by Ashish Nandy in "The Intimate Enemy"?
3. Elucidate the key facets of the great "debate" which Ngugi Wa Thiong'o brings out in "The Quest for Relevance". Cite any two examples from your own education which either supports or disproves Wa Thiongo's stance.

UNIT - II

II Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words each. (1x15=15)

1. "Both Oodgeroo Noonuccal and Judith Wright critique the colonial invasion of Australia but do so from two ends of the spectrum of identity politics and representation." Comment with specific examples from their poetry to build your answer.
2. How does Derek Walcott mount a critique of power and "Empire" in his poetry?
3. Delineate the postcolonial elements expressed in the poetry of Agha Shahid Ali and Michael Ondaatje.

UNIT - III

III Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words each. (1x15=15)

1. Express how *Death and the King's Horseman* is a comment on the hyphenation of identity brought out by the colonial experience.
2. What is the political mooring through which Badal Sircar constructs a narrative in *Indian History Made Easy*? Use examples from the text to substantiate your stance.
3. Critically compare and contrast the characters of Elesin and Olunde with respect to their attitudes towards the colonizers.

UNIT - IV

IV Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words each. (1x15=15)

1. "No people whose word for 'yesterday' is the same as their word for 'tomorrow' can be said to have a firm grip on the time." Substantiate the premise of this quote with specific reference to language and identity in *Midnight's Children*.
2. Critically appreciate any two thematic concerns in Ben Okri's *The Famished Road*.
3. "Reading a postcolonial novel, like its postmodern cousin, is a tiresome affair. The narrative sputters and drowns within the lake of reliability. The only meaning that surfaces is tenuous at best and the characters all appear lost, aching for an identity which never was theirs." Comment with specific reference to *Midnight's Children* and *The Famished Road*.

UNIT - V

V. Write short notes on any TWO of the following. (2x5=10)

1. Neo-colonization.
2. "To the negro-American soldiers"
3. Ritual in *Death and the King's Horseman*.
4. Unreliable narratives in *Midnight's Children*.

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Semester IV – P.G. Examination – M.A. English

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May/June – 2023

CULTURAL STUDIES

Time: 3 hrs.

Max Marks: 70

UNIT - I

Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words each: (1x15=15)

1. Outline the principles and methodology of Cultural Studies and explain how the discipline opposes all that, which traditional literary studies stands for?
2. How did the political and economic situation in the UK and the USA in the 1970s change the approach of Cultural Studies?
3. Comment on popular culture's affinities with commercial culture and globalization theories in post 90's decade.

UNIT - II

Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (1x15=15)

1. Discuss the idea of Pierre Bourdieu that "taste" is determined by the knowledge of classificatory schemes that construct the social world.
2. What is base and superstructure, according to Raymond Williams?
3. Discuss how Bentham and Foucault's Panopticon is about internalized authority and the prison of the mind.

UNIT - III

Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (1x15=15)

1. How has the study of popular fiction been integral to the development of cultural studies?
2. What is the "revolution of values" that bell hooks envisages?
3. Analyse the import of Betty Friedan's statement: "In all the talk of femininity and women's role, one forgets that the real business in America is business."

UNIT - IV

Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (1x15=15)

1. Adorno states in the essay "The Culture Industry" that "works of Art are ascetic and unashamed; the Culture Industry is pornographic and prudish." Comment
2. Sterne aims "to trouble the certainty that we know what cyberculture is and where it comes from"- Discuss how he meets this aim in the essay "The Historiography of Cyberculture."
3. What does Walter Benjamin say about the idea of mechanical reproduction?

UNIT - V

Answer any TWO of the following in about 150 words: (2x5=10)

1. Explain the concept of cultural materialism.
2. Critically analyze the culture that makes housewives of women.
3. What are the reasons given by Sterne for the neglect of sound by cyberculture scholars?
4. Identify some of the key concepts of Cultural Studies.

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Semester IV – P.G. Examination – M.A. English
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AMERICAN LITERATURE - II

Time: 3 hrs.

Max Marks: 70

UNIT- I

Answer any ONE of the following: (15)

1. Why does Henry Thoreau advocate the right of a citizen to revolt against a corrupt government? Elucidate.
2. Discuss the contributions made to the growth of America as a nation by Jefferson, Franklin, and Edwards as elucidated by Robert Spiller.
3. How does Pritchard illustrate the emergence of an American literary culture in the 19th century? Explain.

UNIT-II

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Answer any ONE of the following: (15)

1. Discuss *The Old Man and the Sea* as a representation of the age old battle between nature and humanity.
2. Critically examine the theme of slavery in Toni Morrison's *Beloved*.
3. Critically examine the title, *The Catcher in the Rye* and discuss its significance.

UNIT-III

Answer any ONE of the following: (15)

1. How is illusion and reality juxtaposed in *A Streetcar Named Desire*? Explain.
2. Examine *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* as an Absurdist play.
3. Attempt an analysis of Stanley Kowalski's hyper-masculine character in contrast to Blanche's super feminine one.

UNIT-IV

Answer any ONE of the following: (15)

1. Analyse the title, *A Delicate Balance* and discuss.
2. Critically analyse the theme of death in *The Shadow Box*.
3. Discuss the role played by the Interviewer and the interviews in *The Shadow Box*.

UNIT-V

Write short notes on any TWO of the following: (2x5=10)

1. 19th Century America
2. Paul D in *Beloved*
3. Mitch in *A Streetcar Named Desire*
4. Beverly in *The Shadow Box*

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CULTURES OF DAKSHINA KANNADA IN TRANSLATION

Time: 3 hrs.

Max Marks: 70

UNIT - I

Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words each: (1x15=15)

1. With illustrations, give a detailed description of the types of translation.
2. Explain the decoding and recoding processes in translation.
3. Analyse the problems that affect translation of literary texts.

UNIT - II

Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (1x15=15)

1. Consider Gulvadi Rao's *Indira Bai: The Triumph of Truth and Virtue* to be a text of social history.
2. Illustrate how *Choma's Drum* addresses the politics of social exclusion in India.
3. Examine the treatment of the caste system and patriarchy in the novel *Choma's Drum*?

UNIT - III

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Answer any ONE of the following:

(1x15=15)

1. Attempt a critique of the Caste system in Manglorean Christians as described in Na D'Souza's *Bamonn*.
2. How is Gopalakrishna Pai's *Swapna Saraswatha* a migration narrative that spans generations?
3. How does the novel *Breaking Ties* question the authenticity of religion, relationship between men and women, and unquestion the authority of men and religion?

UNIT - IV

Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (1x15=15)

1. According to Vaidehi, "Art doesn't reside in the object, but in its close encounter with life." Analyse the statement in the context of *Just a few Pages: Some Memories of Saraswatibai Rajwade*.
2. Bring out the significance of the title of Mahalinga Bhat's *Unheard Sounds Flow on*. Comment on its translatability as well.
3. Examine the representation of Bunt traditions in D K Chauta's *Mittabail Yamunakka*.

UNIT - V

Write short notes on any TWO of the following:

(2x5=10)

1. Tipu and Dakshina Kannada
2. Billavas of Dakshina Kannada
3. Roman Catholicism and the influence of local rituals
4. Bhuta-Kola
5. Nagdo Bethala

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GENDER STUDIES

Time: 3 hrs.

Max Marks: 70

UNIT- I

Answer any ONE of the following: (15)

1. How does Rita Banerji attempt to chronicle the ideology of sex and power in India in her work? Explain.
2. What is the metaphysics of substance, and how does it inform thinking about the categories of sex, as stated by Judith Butler?
3. How does R.W.Connell attempt to create a social organization of masculinity? Explain.

UNIT-II

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Answer any ONE of the following: (15)

1. Describe the quest for self-realization as seen in *The Thousand Faces of Night*.
2. How does the novel, *Mrs. Dalloway* define the three main women characters in *The Hours*? Elucidate.
3. How does Revati's autobiography, *The Truth about Me: A Hijra Life Story* highlight the plight of the Transgender community? Discuss.

UNIT-III

Answer any ONE of the following: (15)

1. Bring out the theme of subjugation of women and gender inequality in Manjula Padmanabhan's play, *Lights Out*.
2. How does *A Raisin in the Sun* highlight the dreams and struggles of the Afro American community? Discuss.
3. What is the significance of the title, *A Doll's House*? Explain with reference to Nora and Trovald.

UNIT-IV

Answer any ONE of the following: (15)

1. Discuss the theme of gender dysphoria in *The Danish Girl*.
2. "Girl Power portrays critical viewing of women's studies, advertising and mass communication and their influence on young girls". Elucidate.
3. Critically comment on *The Danish Girl* as a movie of misrepresentations of the Transgender community.

UNIT-V

Write short notes on any TWO of the following: (2x5=10)

1. Master/Slave morality in *Sex and Power*
2. Mayamma in *The Thousand Faces of Night*
3. Freida in *Lights Out*
4. Gerda Wegener