

**UG 5th Semester Examination 2021**

**ENGLISH (Honours)**

**Paper: DSE-2 (A)**

**Criticism and Theory**

**(CBCS)**

Full Marks: 32

Time: Two Hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

1. Answer *any one* of the following questions (in about 300 words):

8×1=8

- a) What are Aristotle's objections to Plato's theory of mimesis?
- b) How do the Pragmatic theorists balance between Truth and Reality?  
Give concrete illustrations.
- c) What are the salient features of Expressive criticism?

2. Answer *any one* of the following questions (in about 300 words):

8×1=8

- a) Why is it better to call "Feminist Theories" and not "Feminist Theory"?
- b) What are the salient features of Marxist literary theory?
- c) How does Postcolonial literary theory question the stereotypical representation of the Empires?

3. Answer *any two* of the following questions, taking one from each section (A and B) in about 150 words: 4×2=08

SECTION-A

- a) Ode b) Tragicomedy c) Romance

SECTION-B

- d) Sign e) The Gaze f) Unconscious

4. Attempt a close reading of *any one* of these following texts:

8×1=8

- a) I don't love you as if you were a rose of salt, topaz,  
or arrow of carnations that propagate fire:  
I love you as one loves certain obscure things,  
secretly, between the shadow and the soul.

I love you as the plant that doesn't bloom but carries  
the light of those flowers, hidden, within itself,  
and thanks to your love the tight aroma that arose  
from the earth lives dimly in my body.

I love you without knowing how, or when, or from where,  
I love you directly without problems or pride:  
I love you like this because I don't know any other way to love,  
except in this form in which I am not nor are you,  
so close that your hand upon my chest is mine,  
so close that your eyes close with my dreams.

- b) Nothing interesting ever happens in this village, and now suddenly here I am, face-to-face with the master of an art that no one even cares about anymore," said the boy, his eyes shining. "What is the way of the bow? Can you teach me?"

“Teaching it isn’t hard. I could do that in less than an hour, while we’re walking back to the village. The difficult thing is to practice it every day, until you achieve the necessary precision.”

The boy’s eyes seemed to be begging him to say yes. Tetsuya walked in silence for nearly fifteen minutes, and when he spoke again, his voice sounded younger:

“Today I am contented. I did honor to the man who, many years ago, saved my life, and, because of that, I will teach you all the necessary rules, but I can do no more than that. If you understand what I tell you, you can use those teachings as you wish. Now, a few minutes ago, you called me master. What is a master? I would say that he is not someone who teaches something, but someone who inspires the student to do his best to discover a knowledge he already has in his soul.

**Paper-DSE : 2 (B)**

**Detective Literature**

**Full Marks-32**

**Time-Two Hours**

1 Answer the following questions within 200 words each:

4×6=24

a. Comment on the use of sensational elements in Wilkie Collins's *The Woman in White*.

OR

b. Analyze the narrative technique of *The Woman in White*.

c. Comment on the subversive aspects of Nancy Drew's character with reference to *The Hidden Staircase*.

OR

d. Is it justified to say that the plot of *The Hidden Staircase* hinges on both 'adventure' and 'detection'? Argue your answer with adequate textual illustrations.

e. To what extent Chandler's *The Big Sleep* may be considered as a critique of the social and moral temperature of the 1930s' America? Discuss

OR

f. Assess the portrayal of female characters in *The Big Sleep*.

g. Critically comment on Sharadindu Bandyopadhyay's mingling of romantic novel with detective fiction in *The Quills of the Porcupine*.

OR

h. How does Saradindu Bandyopadhyay represent the clash of class and caste of the mid-twentieth century Bengali society in his *The Quills of the Porcupine*?

2. Answer the following questions within 60 words each:

4×2= 8

a. Why does Sir Percival Glyde set fire to the vestry to destroy church records?

or

b. Why is Walter Hartright hesitant to accept the job at the Limmeridge House, *The Woman in White*?

c. Why do the Turnbull sisters ask for Nancy's help in *The Hidden Staircase*?

or

d. What is the anonymous message received in chapter IX of *The Hidden Staircase*? Who receives it

and how?

e. Who blackmails Carmen in *The Big Sleep*? Why?

or

f. What role does 'Geiger's bookstore' play in the novel, *The Big Sleep*?

g. Why does the murderer fail to kill Debasish in *The Quills of the Pocupine*?

or

h. On whom does Debasish test the beauty products his company manufactures, and why?