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

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(June/July)

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) How does Gramsci distinguish 'civil society' and 'political society' in connection to the function of intellectuals in society?
- (b) "All ideology hails or interpellates concrete individuals as concrete subjects." Discuss Althusser's concept of the subject in the light of this statement.

(c) For Gramsci, hegemony operates through civil society. Discuss with reference to his essay, *The Formation of the Intellectuals*

2. Answer any one of the following questions :

5

(a) How can Gramsci's theory of hegemony be applied to read literary texts?

(b) What role do intellectuals play in the maintenance or subversion of hegemonic control?

(c) What does Althusser mean by reproduction of the means of production and reproduction of labour power in the context of ideology?

UNIT—II

(Feminism)

3. Answer any one of the following questions :

15

(a) Critically respond to the idea of female literary tradition in relation to Showalter's essay, *Twenty Years on : A Literature of Their Own Revisited*.

(b) How does Irigaray contend that homosexuality and homosociality exist in society? Examine critically.

(c) How does Irigaray relate sexuality and trade? Explain.

4. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 5
- (a) Discuss after Elaine Showalter the concept of 'New Women'.
 - (b) Comment on the concept of 'trading of women' as presented by Irigaray in her essay, *When the Goods Get Together*.
 - (c) Briefly comment on Irigaray's critique of Freud.

UNIT—III

(**Post-structuralism**)

5. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15
- (a) Discuss how Derrida overturns Western notions about structure, center and the structurality of structure.
 - (b) Discuss Foucault's critique of the concepts of ideology and repression in the elaboration of his theory of power.
 - (c) For Derrida, the center "closes off the play, which it opens up and makes possible". Discuss the idea of the center in governing the operations within any structure.
6. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 5
- (a) Briefly outline Foucault's theory of power.
 - (b) In what way Derrida brings in Claude Levi-Strauss to his discussion?

- (c) Discuss briefly (any one) :
- (i) Structure and Anti-structuralism
 - (ii) Decentering the center

UNIT—IV

(Post-colonial Studies)

7. Answer any one of the following questions : 15
- (a) How does Mahatma Gandhi explain passive resistance in *Hind Swaraj*?
 - (b) How does Edward Said discuss 'Orientalism' as a way of defining and locating Europe's 'other'? Examine.
 - (c) How does Aijaz Ahmad problematize the category of 'Indian Literature'? Discuss.
8. Answer any one of the following questions : 5
- (a) Discuss Gandhi's views on education as elaborated in *Hind Swaraj*.
 - (b) What is the crisis referred to in Edward Said's *Orientalism*?
 - (c) Discuss, in brief, the institutional problems encountered while talking of a separate entity such as 'Indian Literature'.
 - (d) How does Ahmad link Indian culture and languages with 'Indian Literature'?

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