

**SECOND SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, JUNE 2014**

(CUCSS)

English

**EN 2C 04—CRITICISM AND THEORY**

(2012 Admissions)

Three Hours

Maximum : 36 Weightage

I. Answer *all* the questions in a word, phrase or sentence :

- 1 Sir Philip Sidney used the words 'laurel crown' and 'strong monarchs' to refer to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 What is the definition of tragedy given by Aristotle ?
- 3 Which poem by Mathew Arnold is mentioned in the essay "Irony as a Principle of Structure".
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ saw in Metaphysical Poets, a capacity "for devouring all kinds of experience".

(4 × ½ = 2 weightage)

5 \_\_\_\_\_ is the name of the philosopher who wrote an important commentary on *Dhvanyaloka*.

6 The word 'Vakrokti' consists of two components \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

7 Which critic observed thus: "The most important thing is the art, the object takes and not the object itself" ?

8 According to Barthes, Structuralism involves two operations, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

(4 × ½ = 2 weightage)

II. Answer any *six* of the following in a paragraph of about 150 words each :

- 9 Aristotle's approach to poetry.
- 10 Russian Formalism.
- 11 Rhetorical Style of Sir Philip Sidney.
- 12 Comment on the notion of 'Sublime'.
- 13 Unification of Sensibility.
- 14 Comment on the concept of 'Free Play'.

**Turn over**

- 15 The two cardinal points of poetry discussed in *Biographia Literaria*.
- 16 The multi dimensional implications of "Vakrokti".
- 17 Significance of the notion of "Catharsis".
- 18 The Archetypes of literature discussed in Northrop Frye's essay "The Archetypes of Literature"

(6 × 2 = 12 weightage)

III. Write essays of about 450 words on any *four* of the following, choosing one from each section :

#### Section A

- 19 Examine Sir Philip Sidney's views on the status of poetry in contemporary England.
- 20 Attempt a discussion on Aristotle's observations on tragedy, with special reference to its characteristics, constituent parts and plot.
- 21 Comment on Coleridge's observations on the truth of nature and its relation to poetry, with reference to the prescribed chapters from *Biographia Literaria*.

#### Section B

22. Cleanth Brooks did not consider irony as "a feature of language or meaning as a sort of coherence yoking disparate elements together". Substantiate.
23. Examine the influence Shklovsky's essay "Art as Technique" had on Russian Formalism.
24. Discuss the anti-romantic and intellectual qualities of the Metaphysical poets, praised by T.S. Eliot.

#### Section C

- 25 Discuss the contribution made by the theory of "Rasa" to the world of Indian aesthetics.
- 26 Comment on the types of "Vakrokti" as expounded by Kuntaka.
- 27 Examine the universal and the poly tuning nature of the 'dhvani'.

#### Section D

- 28 Examine how Edmund Wilson's *Marxism and Literature* established his position as a humanistic critic.
- 29 Analyse the reasons behind Elaine Showalter's view that feminist theory was influenced by multiple literary theories.
- 30 Discuss the main concepts in the essay "Structure, Sign and Play"?

(4 × 5 = 20 weightage)