

**FIFTH SEMESTER B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2025**

(CBCSS - UG)

(Regular/Supplementary/Improvement)

**CC19UENG5B08 - LITERARY THEORY**

(English - Core Course)

(2019 Admission onwards)

Time : 2.5 Hours

Maximum : 80 Marks

Credit : 4

**Part A (Short answer questions)**Answer ***all*** questions. Each question carries 2 marks.

1. Define liberal humanism.
2. What is the reason for the aversion that literary theorists hold against liberal humanists?
3. Distinguish between langue and parole. Who coined these terms?
4. What are the three qualities of mental processes according Freud?
5. Explain the 'Mirror stage' shortly.
6. What does the base structure and superstructure stand for in Marxism?
7. Whom does Gramsci call 'traditional' intellectuals?
8. Who is the author of Culture and Society? What is the primary concern of this text?
9. What is power according to Michel Foucault?
10. What is Greenblatt's take on the importance of 'history' in the context of new historicism?
11. What is the etymology of the term feminism?
12. What are the major accusations of the third wave feminists against the second wave feminism?
13. What are the basic features of Radical feminism?
14. How much did Foucault's ideas on sexuality have influenced Queer theory?
15. Who is Homi Bhabha? What does he mean by the 'uncanny'?

**(Ceiling: 25 Marks)****Part B (Paragraph questions)**Answer ***all*** questions. Each question carries 5 marks.

16. In what way does Poststructuralism question the structuralist concept of reality?

17. Explain Derrida's notion that the "centre is not the centre".
18. What are the salient features of The Frankfurt School?
19. Comment on the difference between cultural materialism and new historicism.
20. Write a short note on New Historicism.
21. What are the three stages of feminist literary criticism according to Showalter.
22. What role does Anderson's definition of 'nation' plays in the postcolonial critique of Nationalism?
23. Write a short note on Postmodernism.

**(Ceiling: 35 Marks)**

**Part C (Essay questions)**

Answer any ***two*** questions. Each question carries 10 marks.

24. Explicate Gerard Genette's argument for the autonomous nature of the literary text with reference to his key concepts in Structural Narratology.
25. Analyse the theoretical concepts of 'popular culture' with reference to his essays, 'Notes on Deconstructing the Popular' and 'Cultural Studies: Two Paradigms'.
26. Write a detailed summary of French feminism and its basic tenets.
27. Nature is the most important consideration of ecocriticism. Comment on this statement briefly.

**( $2 \times 10 = 20$  Marks)**

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