

2016

M. Phil.

1st Semester Examination

ENGLISH

PAPER—ENG-112

Full Marks : 100

Time : 4 Hours

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

Illustrate the answers wherever necessary.

Section - A

Answer six of the following questions taking *two* from each unit. (Each question has to be answered within 500 words):

15×6

Unit—I

1. Discuss how Bakhtin establishes that the diverse forms of 'parodic travestying' writing prepared the ground for the novel long before its actual appearance.

(Turn Over)

2. Bring out, after Walter Benjamin, the significance of the work of art losing its 'aura' in an eye of mechanical reproduction. Discuss with reference to his observations on photography.
3. Critically comment on Freud's analysis of the causes of the West's discontent in its own civilisation.
4. Write a short essay on Saussure's idea of 'linguistic value' as expressed in his essay.

Unit—II

5. Discuss Foucault's idea of 'author-function' in his essay "What Is an Author?"
6. Discuss any two of the principal proposition of Barthes relations to his discourse on Text in "From Work to Text".
7. Explain with illustrations how Lacan frames the relationship between the subject and the signifier in his "Seminar on 'the Purloined Letter'."
8. Examine the 'Afterword' to Said's *Orientalism* as a rejection of both "insouciant nativism and militant militarism of the nationalist consensus."

Unit—III

9. Discuss after Deleuze and Guattari the three characteristics of 'minor literature' with suitable illustrations.
10. What according to Baudrillard, are the three orders of simulacra? How does he distinguish between simulation and science fiction? Answer with reference to his essay.
11. How does Frederic Jameson link Marxist critical thought with cultural analysis in order to counter the tenets of western structuralism. Answer with reference to the work of Jameson that you have read.
12. Examine Lyotard's essay "An Answer to the Question : What is the Postmodern?" as a rejoinder to Habermas's "Modernity : An Unfinished Project".

Section - B

Comment on *any two* of the following (within 100 words) :

5×2

13. (a) Freud's idea of Beauty.
- (b) Benjamin's view of Dadaism.

- (c) Barthes' observation that "the Text does not stop at (good) Literature".
- (d) Lyotard's idea of the 'postmodern'.
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