

2015
ENGLISH
Paper : 0304

ESSAYS ON CRITICAL THEORY

Full Marks : 80
Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer any three from the following questions: 12 x 3 = 36
- (a) Discuss how Saussure in his 'The Object of Study' executes the difference between language and speech through the help of speech circuit.
 - (b) How does Roland Barthes distinguish text from work on the basis of seven propositions. Explain with illustrations from the text.
 - (c) "The convergence of text and reader brings the literary work into existence". Explain the statement of Wolfgang Iser with reference to phenomenological approach.

- (d) Discuss capitalism, modernism and postmodernism as highlighted by Terry Eagleton.
- (e) Explain the way Lacan insists language in psychoanalysis in the essay 'The Insistence of the Letter in the Unconscious'.

2. Answer any three from the following questions: 8 x 3 = 24

- (a) "Language the signifying chain has a life of its own which cannot be securely anchored in a world of things". Elaborate in the light of Lacan's essay The Insistence of the Letter in the Unconscious".
- (b) Explain Derrida's idea of language as a play of identity and difference.
- (c) Throw light on capitalist technology as discussed by Terry Eagleton which can be viewed as an immense desiring machine, an enormous circuit of messages and exchanges.
- (d) How does Spivak incorporate the importance of race in critical theory and relates it to the feminist argument of identification?

(e) Do you consider raptures, instabilities, paradoxes and microcatastrophic discontinuities to be the tally mark of postmodernism. Give a well-envisaged answer.

3. Write short notes on any four of the following: $5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) Bricolage.
- (b) Metonymy and Metaphor.
- (c) Unconscious.
- (d) Modernism and Institutionalization.
- (e) The executive and the Receptive part of Language.
- (f) Spivak's reference to Margaret Drabble's "The Waterfall" from Feminist perspective.