



K25P 1816

Reg. No. :

Name :

II Semester M.A. Degree (C.B.C.S.S. – OBE-Regular)

Examination, April 2025

(2024 Admission)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

MAENG02C08 : Critical Theory

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 80

PART – A

Answer **any 5** of the following in **80** words.

(5×4=20)

1. Define the terms “Signifier” and “Signified”. Explain their relationship in structuralist linguistics.
2. What does Derrida mean by “différance” and how does it function in deconstruction ?
3. What is the difference between organic and traditional intellectuals in Gramsci’s theory ?
4. Define Cartesian dualism and explain its role in shaping western thought.
5. How does Caruth relate trauma to history and survival ?
6. What is the fundamental difference between post-humanism and trans-humanism ?

PART – B

Answer **any 3** of the following in **150** words.

(3×8=24)

7. Discuss the concept of bio politics in Foucault’s work. How does it relate to modern forms of governance ?
8. Discuss how Zizek reinterprets Marx’s notion of class struggle in the 21st century.
9. Discuss Jung’s idea of the collective unconscious and its impact on psychoanalysis.

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10. Explain how geo-criticism challenges traditional Eurocentric perspectives in Spatial studies.
11. How does Westphal's geocentered approach redefine the relationship between space and literature ?

PART – C

Answer **any 3** of the following in **300** words.

(3×12=36)

12. Discuss the impact of cybernetics, informatics, and artificial intelligence on the formation of posthuman identity, as explored by Hayles.
13. Butler challenges the idea of a unified subject in feminism. Discuss how this critique reshapes feminist discourse and the category of "woman".
14. Discuss the relationship between Base and Superstructure in Marxist theory. How does it shape our understanding of social and economic structures ?
15. How does Gail Omvedt highlight Phule's vision of social equality and caste abolition ? Discuss in relation to "Begumpura".
16. Analyze Derrida's critique of structuralism in "Structure, Sign, and Play". How does he challenge the idea of a fixed center in human Sciences ?