

B. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2017

BRANCH XII – ENGLISH

FOURTH SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR – CORE
PAPER : LITERARY CRITICISM - II
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS : 100

SECTION A

I. Answer the following in about 250 words each. (3x15=45)

1. Discuss T. S. Eliot's impersonality theory of art?
OR
2. How does Cleanth Brooks prove that the language of paradox is the language of poetry?
3. Why does Raman Selden state that binary oppositions are fundamental to structural thought?
OR
4. Why does Roland Barthes consider "myth as a second-order semiological system"?
5. Does Todorov problematize the relationship between story and plot in "Typology of Detective Fiction"? Give reasons.

OR

6. Write an essay on the science of nescience.

SECTION B

II. Answer any two of the following in about 500 words each. (2x20=40)

1. Why was T.S. Eliot considered as the progenitor of New Criticism?
2. Write an essay on the salient features of Structuralism.
3. Why does Wolfgang Iser consider the reader as an active creator of the meaning of texts and also ascribe an active role to texts?
4. Attempt an essay on M.H. Abrams' critique of the 'Newreaders', who, according to him, "systematically dehumanize all aspects of traditional views about a work of literature".

SECTION C

III. Analyse the following poem using a suitable critical or theoretical perspective. (1x15=15)

Saviours

It's hard to say
Who's on which side.
All the murderers are wearing
masks
with god's face painted on.

The defenders of faith
are devoutly contemplating
currency,
the slide of the rupee,
tumbling stock,
the taxi drivers' strike,
and whether our Saviour will return
as a computer chip.

The price of onions has gone up:
the men around the table
decide it is appropriate
to go to war.

by Imtiaz Dharker
