

QP CODE

C2004

Enrollment Number:

Name:

MA DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, JULY 2025

Third Semester

M.A. English Language & Literature

M21EG09DC – Literary Theory

(2023 July admissions)

Time: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 70

Section A

Answer any five of the following questions in two or three sentences each. Each question carries 2 marks.

1. How does the synchronic approach to linguistics differ from the diachronic approach?
2. What is the core assumption of Marxist feminism?
3. Name two works by Roland Barthes that contributed to the development of structuralist approaches in literary studies?
4. Define the term deep ecology.
5. What is the tripartite model of the human mind proposed by Sigmund Freud?
6. Name two foundational texts that contributed to the emergence of New Historicism.
7. What is meant by dream work?
8. Define the term supplement.

(2X5=10)

Section B

Answer any six of the following questions in a paragraph each. Each question carries 5 marks.

9. Examine the structuralist understanding of the linguistic sign.
10. Discuss deconstruction as a critical reading practice.
11. Examine Foucault's concept of *discourse* and its role in constructing social realities.
12. Discuss the significance of the Oedipus complex in Freudian psychoanalysis.
13. Examine the Lacanian concept of *jouissance* and its role in psychoanalytic theory.
14. Discuss the core concerns of Ecocriticism.
15. Discuss Kate Millett's contributions to feminist literary criticism.
16. Explain the concept of *gyno criticism* and its significance in feminist literary studies.
17. Discuss Stephen Greenblatt's contributions to the development of New Historicism.

18. Discuss the theoretical foundations of New Historicism.

(5X6=30)

Section C

Answer any two of the following questions in four pages each. Each question carries 15 marks.

19. Discuss the key contributions of Ferdinand de Saussure to the development of structuralist linguistics.
20. Examine the three psychoanalytic stages—Imaginary, Symbolic, and Real—as proposed by Jacques Lacan.
21. How does New Historicism differ from traditional historicist approaches to literature?
22. Trace the development of ecocriticism as an area of inquiry within the humanities.

(15X2=30)