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G. VENKATASWAMY NAIDU COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), KOVILPATTI – 628 502.



PG DEGREE END SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS - NOVEMBER 2025.

(For those admitted in June 2023 and later)

PROGRAMME AND BRANCH: M.A., ENGLISH

SEM	CATEGORY	COMPONENT	COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE
III	PART - III	CORE - 7	P23EN307	CONTEMPORARY LITERARY CRITICISM

Date & Session : 03.11.2025/AN

Time : 3 hours

Maximum: 75 Marks

Course Outcome	Bloom's K-level	Q. No.	SECTION – A (10 X 1 = 10 Marks) Answer ALL Questions.
CO1	K1	1.	Derrida's essay challenges the idea of a fixed ____ in structures. a) Origin b) Centre c) Signifier d) Play
CO1	K2	2.	Derrida uses the term ____ to describe the movement and openness within structures. a) Freeplay b) Sign c) Closure d) Essence
CO2	K1	3.	In " <i>The Deconstructive Angel</i> ," Abrams primarily engages with the theories of ____. a) Roland Barthes b) Jacques Derrida c) Paul de Man d) Michel Foucault
CO2	K2	4.	Abrams critiques deconstruction for undermining the stability of a text's ____. a) Author b) Meaning c) Structure d) Language
CO3	K1	5.	According to Sontag, interpretation often reduces art to its ____. a) Essence b) Structure c) Content d) Surface
CO3	K2	6.	In " <i>Crisis in Orientalism</i> ," Edward Said critiques the Western scholarly tradition that studies the East, calling it ____. a) Orientalism b) Imperialism c) Nationalism d) Occidentalism
CO4	K1	7.	According to Cleanth Brooks in " <i>Irony as a Principle of Structure</i> ," the dominant unifying element in poetry is often ____. a) Symbolism b) Rhythm c) Allegory d) Irony
CO4	K2	8.	Freud insists in his " <i>Creative Writers and Day-Dreaming</i> ," that artistic creation is closely related to ____. a) Logic b) Memory c) Day Dreaming d) Reality
CO5	K1	9.	Barthes associates the concept of "intertextuality" primarily with the ____. a) Author b) Reader c) Work d) Text
CO5	K2	10.	Eagleton links postmodernism closely with ____. a) Feudalism b) Capitalism c) Romanticism d) Colonialism
Course Outcome	Bloom's K-level	Q. No.	SECTION – B (5 X 5 = 25 Marks) Answer ALL Questions choosing either (a) or (b)
CO1	K2	11a.	Explain Derrida's concept of the "center" and why he calls it paradoxical. (OR)
CO1	K2	11b.	What is the relationship between "sign" and "play" in Derrida's argument?

CO2	K2	12a.	What is the main argument of M.H. Abrams in “ <i>The Deconstructive Angel</i> ”? (OR)
CO2	K2	12b.	Why does Abrams use the term “Deconstructive Angel” in his essay?
CO3	K3	13a.	Summarize the central argument of Susan Sontag in her essay “ <i>Against Interpretation</i> ”? (OR)
CO3	K3	13b.	Describe the concept and implications of Orientalism in Edward Said’s essay “ <i>Crisis in Orientalism</i> ”?
CO4	K3	14a.	Brooks considers irony is essential for the unity of a poem – Justify (OR)
CO4	K3	14b.	Explain the connection between daydreaming and artistic creation in Freud’s essay “ <i>Creative Writers and Day-Dreaming</i> ”?
CO5	K4	15a.	Distinguish between the concepts of “work” and “text” in Roland Barthes’ essay “From Work to Text” (OR)
CO5	K4	15b.	How does Terry Eagleton connect postmodernism with capitalism in his essay “ <i>Capitalism, Modernism and Postmodernism</i> ”?

Course Outcome	Bloom’s K-level	Q. No	SECTION – C (5 X 8 = 40 Marks) Answer <u>ALL</u> Questions choosing either (a) or (b)
CO1	K4	16a.	How does Derrida challenge the traditional notion of structure in his essay “ <i>Structure, Sign, and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences</i> ”? (OR)
CO1	K4	16b.	Discuss Jacques Derrida’s critique of structuralism in his essay “Structure, Sign, and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences.” How do the concepts of “center,” “decentering,” and “freeplay” redefine the understanding of structures in the human sciences?
CO2	K5	17a.	Explain M.H. Abrams’ critique of deconstruction in his essay “The Deconstructive Angel.” How does he respond to Paul de Man’s deconstructive approach? (OR)
CO2	K5	17b.	Why does M.H. Abrams call deconstructionists “Deconstructive Angels”? Explain the significance of this metaphor in his essay.
CO3	K5	18a.	Examine Susan Sontag’s critique of traditional criticism in her essay “ <i>Against Interpretation</i> .” How does she propose we engage with art instead? (OR)
CO3	K5	18b.	Analyze Edward Said’s critique of Orientalist scholarship in his essay “Crisis in Orientalism.”
CO4	K5	19a.	Scrutinize how Cleanth Brooks explains the role of irony as a unifying principle in poetry in his essay “Irony as a Principle of Structure.” (OR)
CO4	K5	19b.	Analyze Sigmund Freud’s views on the relationship between daydreaming, wish-fulfillment, and artistic creation as discussed in his essay “ <i>Creative Writers and Day-Dreaming</i> .”
CO5	K6	20a.	Critically analyze Roland Barthes’ distinction between “work” and “text” in his essay “ <i>From Work to Text</i> .” (OR)
CO5	K6	20b.	Discuss Terry Eagleton’s analysis of the relationship between capitalism, modernism, and postmodernism in his essay “ <i>Capitalism, Modernism and Postmodernism</i> .”