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2 PGDE ENG 5

2012

(Nov.-Dec.)

ENGLISH

Paper : 205

(Critical Theory)

Full Marks – 80

Time – Three hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.

1. Answer any *five* of the following questions :

12×5=60

- (a) According to Saussure, what are the two major characteristics of “sign”? Elaborate on the implications of this position of Saussure.
- (b) Critically comment on major differences between the ‘work’ and the ‘text’ as proposed by Barthes.

- (c) Critically examine the major poststructuralist observations of Derrida in “Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of Human Science.”
- (d) Write a comprehensive note on Foucault’s idea of “author function.”
- (e) Examine the major contentions of Stanley Fish in “Is there a text in the class?” Do you think he has given too much importance to the reader in his theory of interpretation? Justify your answer.
- (f) Which factors, according to Althusser, are responsible for the reproduction of the conditions of production? Examine elaborately.
- (g) Examine the position of Lacan as a poststructuralist psychoanalyst on the basis of your reading of “The Insistence of the letter in the Unconscious.”
- (h) What, according to Said, constitutes the “crisis” in western representations of the Orient? Cite a few examples from the text prescribed regarding how the Orient has been stereotyped by the west.

- (i) Critically examine Toi Moi's attempt to rescue Virginia Woolf for feminist politics on the basis of your reading of "Who is Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"
- (j) According to Elaine Showalter, what are the two distinct varieties of Feminist Criticism? Elaborate their major concerns and limitations.

2. Write a critical note on any *one* of the following :
10

- (a) Carnival
(b) New Historicism
(c) Female, feminine and feminist.

3. Write short notes on any *two* of the following :
5×2=10

- (a) Play
(b) Gynocriticism
(c) Binary opposition
(d) Structuralism
(e) Orientalism
(f) Affective stylistics.