

2025

(NEP—2020)

(5th Semester)

ENGLISH (MAJOR2)

(Introduction to Literary Criticism)

Full Marks : 75

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

(SECTION : A—OBJECTIVE)

(Marks : 10)

Tick (✓) the correct answer in the brackets provided :

1×10=10

1. "Criticism is the art of interpreting ____."

- (a) poetry ()
- (b) texts ()
- (c) classics ()
- (d) art ()

2. After the French Revolution, criticism and the rest of literature began to shake off the shackles of

- (a) Renaissance influence ()
- (b) Classical authority ()
- (c) Romanticism ()
- (d) Elizabethan poetry ()

3. Which element does Aristotle consider the soul of tragedy?
- (a) Character ()
 - (b) Plot ()
 - (c) Spectacle ()
 - (d) Thought ()
4. Peripeteia is defined as
- (a) character development ()
 - (b) a tragic flaw ()
 - (c) reversal of fortune ()
 - (d) song of the chorus ()
5. Aristotle believes that poetry is more philosophical than history because
- (a) it uses verse ()
 - (b) it pleases the audience ()
 - (c) it deals with universals ()
 - (d) it includes myths ()
6. Four persons, who were on the boat, ride down the river Thames were
- (a) Dryden, Shakespeare, Johnson, Sidney ()
 - (b) Plato, Aristotle, Socrates, Sophocles ()
 - (c) Eugenius, Crites, Lisideius, Neander ()
 - (d) Denham, Cowley, John Suckling, Waller ()
7. The three unities in drama consist of
- (a) plot, character, song ()
 - (b) imitation, action, plot ()
 - (c) time, place, action ()
 - (d) chorus, place, action ()
8. *Lyrical Ballads* was published as
- (a) an experiment ()
 - (b) a philosophical treatise ()
 - (c) a biography ()
 - (d) an exposition ()
9. A poet is a man speaking to
- (a) countrymen ()
 - (b) world ()
 - (c) universe ()
 - (d) men ()

10. Personification of abstract ideas rarely occurs in

- (a) Shakespear's poems ()
- (b) Lyrical Ballads ()
- (c) Greek tragedy ()
- (d) Elizabethan poetry ()

(SECTION : B—SHORT ANSWERS)

(Marks : 15)

Answer *five* questions, taking at least *one* from each Unit :

3×5=15

UNIT—I

1. Write a short note on the relation between Literature and Criticism.
2. Write a short note on Feminist Criticism.

UNIT—II

3. What does Aristotle mean by mimesis in poetry?
4. Differentiate between a Simple and a Complex plot.

UNIT—III

5. State Dryden's description of a play.
6. What was the argument put forward by Crites in favour of the ancients?

UNIT—IV

7. Why does Wordsworth choose subjects from common life rather than heroic themes?
8. Comment, in brief, Wordsworth's views on poetic diction.

(SECTION : C—DESCRIPTIVE)

(Marks : 50)

Answer *five* questions, taking at least *one* from each Unit :

10×5=50

UNIT—I

1. What is criticism? Describe at least four tenets of literary criticism.
2. Compare and contrast Classical and Romantic standpoints in literary criticism.

UNIT—II

3. Discuss Aristotle's concept of tragedy as defined in the *Poetics*. Explain the essential components of tragedy.
4. According to Aristotle, what qualities make a good tragic hero? Support your answer with examples.

UNIT—III

5. Discuss the main aim and purpose of John Dryden's *An Essay of Dramatic Poesy*.
6. Explore Dryden's perspective of the English poets.

UNIT—IV

7. Elucidate Wordsworth's famous statement, "Poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings".
8. Discuss the conditions in which Wordsworth chose to portray incidents and situations from common life in his poetry.
