

2025

(NEP—2020)

(5th Semester)

ENGLISH (MAJOR3/MINOR)**(Popular Literature)***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. Which theorist is associated with the idea that popular culture is a site where the 'politics of signification' are played out?

- (a) Stuart Hall ()
- (b) Louis Althusser ()
- (c) Roland Barthes ()
- (d) Raymond Williams ()

2. The blurring of the distinction between mass culture and commercial culture is an important feature of

- (a) postmodern culture ()
- (b) folk culture ()
- (c) elite culture ()
- (d) modern culture ()

3. Which of the following best describes the theme of "Redemption Song"?
- (a) Romantic love ()
 - (b) Political revolution ()
 - (c) Spiritual freedom and liberation ()
 - (d) Escapism and utopian fantasy ()
4. Who wrote the song "Man in the Mirror"?
- (a) Michael Jackson and Billy Ocean ()
 - (b) Simon and Garfunkel ()
 - (c) Siedah Garrett and Glen Ballard ()
 - (d) Hall and Oates ()
5. BTS's "DNA" as a cultural text can be read as an example of
- (a) globalization of K-pop as soft power ()
 - (b) oneness of all living beings ()
 - (c) traditional elements of folklore in music ()
 - (d) dilution of authentic culture by mass culture ()
6. What tragic event inspired the Cranberries to write "Zombie"?
- (a) The Dublin Riots ()
 - (b) The Warrington bombings ()
 - (c) The Belfast Agreement ()
 - (d) World War II bombings ()
7. Bezos hurts his grandmother's feelings when he
- (a) calculates her life expectancy based on her ancestors' ages at the time of death ()
 - (b) lists out the potential health issues she may have at her age ()
 - (c) tells her his grandfather could have married someone better ()
 - (d) calculates the number of years her smoking may have taken off her life ()
8. What emotion do the children feel after sun disappears and they remember Margot?
- (a) Anger ()
 - (b) Shame and guilt ()
 - (c) Indifference ()
 - (d) Relief ()
9. In *The Graveyard Book*, who becomes the guardian of Nobody Owens after his family is murdered?
- (a) Mr. Pennyworth ()
 - (b) Liza Hempstock ()
 - (c) Scarlett ()
 - (d) Silas ()

10. What protects Bod when he enters the ancient burial chamber guarded by the Sleer?
- (a) Freedom of the graveyard ()
 - (b) A silver pendant ()
 - (c) A magic incantation taught by Silas ()
 - (d) The protection of Miss Lupescu ()

(SECTION : B—SHORT ANSWERS)

(Marks : 15)

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

3×5=15

UNIT—I

1. Mention three definitions of culture as put forth by Raymond Williams.
2. How does Storey differentiate between 'high culture' and 'popular culture'?

UNIT—II

3. Explain the significance of the repetition of the word 'Zombie' in the song of the same name.
4. How does the song "DNA" by BTS connect the idea of love with destiny or fate?

UNIT—III

5. What does Jeff Bezos mean when he says, "Cleverness is a gift, kindness is a choice"?
6. In what way is Margot different from the rest of the children on Venus?

UNIT—IV

7. Why was Bod adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Owens?
8. What is the role played by the Hounds of God in Neil Gaiman's *The Graveyard Book*?

(SECTION : C—DESCRIPTIVE)

(Marks : 50)

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

10×5=50

UNIT—I

1. List the difficulties in describing what popular culture encompasses.
2. Comment on the definitions of 'ideology' as given in "What is Popular Culture".

UNIT—II

3. Analyze any one of the songs—"Redemption Song", "Man in the Mirror" and "Zombie" on the themes of human suffering, violence, poverty and freedom.
4. Write a critical analysis of BTS's song "DNA".

UNIT—III

5. Describe the core message of Jeff Bezos' speech, "What matters more than your talents".
6. Describe the themes of jealousy and alienation in Ray Bradbury's *All Summer in a Day*.

UNIT—IV

7. Comment on the themes of identity and self-discovery in Neil Gaiman's *The Graveyard Book*.
8. How does Neil Gaiman blend fantasy and reality in *The Graveyard Book*?
