

M.A. Examination, 2018

Semester-IV

English

Course - M. 4.1 (Core): Literary Theory I (New syllabus)

Core-VIII (Core): Literary Theory I (Old syllabus)

Time: 3 Hours

Full marks: 40

Questions are of equal value

Answer **any four** questions taking at least **one from each group**

Group - A

1. According to Marx, it is only in the ideological superstructure that 'men become conscious of this conflict and fight it out'. Critically comment.
2. Analyse the way the city constructs the *notion* of the country in *The Country and the City*.

Group – B

3. 'Might we not say that every child at play behaves like a creative writer, in that he creates a world of his own, or, rather, re-arranges the things of his world in a new way which pleases him?' Elucidate with reference to Sigmund Freud.
4. Psychoanalytical literary criticism can be broadly divided into four kinds, depending on what it takes as its object of attention. It can attend to the *author* of the work; to the work's *content*; to *its formal construction*; or to the *reader*. Discuss.
5. Discuss the various approaches to reader response theories in the essays prescribed in your syllabus.

Group - C

6. Discuss how in 'The Death of the Author' Roland Barthes assumes a position between structuralist and poststructuralist notions of textuality.
 7. 'No longer the tiresome repetitions... New questions will be heard... Behind all these questions we would hear little more than the murmur of indifference...' Critically comment on the implication of the 'tiresome repetitions', the 'new questions' replacing them and 'the murmur of indifference'.
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