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Reg. No.....

Name.....

B.A. DEGREE (C.B.C.S.S.) EXAMINATION, JUNE 2026

Fifth Semester

B.A. English Language and Literature

Core Course—LITERARY CRITICISM : THEORY AND PRACTICE

(2014—2016 Admissions—Mercy Chance)

[For Private Registration Candidates]

Time : Three Hours

Maximum Weight : 25

Instructions : *This question paper contains two sections. Answer Section I questions in the answer book provided. Section II Internal Examination questions must be answered in the question paper itself. Follow the detailed instructions given under Section II.*

Section I

PART A

Answer all questions in this Part.

Each bunch of four questions carries a weight of 1.

Choose the correct answer from the following :

- I. 1 According to Aristotle, the characters must have :
- (a) Goodness. (b) Appropriateness.
- (c) Consistency. (d) All of these.
- 2 In which figure of speech, a comparison is made between two unlike things ?
- (a) Simile. (b) Paradox.
- (c) Irony. (d) None of these.
- 3 Who among the following is a founder of Greek drama ?
- (a) Aeschylus. (b) Dante.
- (c) Homer. (d) None of these.

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- 4 The number of chapters in 'Poetics' is :
- (a) Twenty one. (b) Twenty six.
(c) Thirty six. (d) None of these.
- II. 5 Who considers poetry as a mere 'shadow of shadows' ?
- (a) Plato. (b) Aristotle.
(c) Gosson. (d) Locke.
- 6 Who among the following write 'Preface to the Lyrical Ballads' ?
- (a) Wordsworth. (b) Coleridge.
(c) Shelley. (d) None of these.
- 7 Who was the first literary critic who said that 'Art is twice removed from reality' ?
- (a) Plato. (b) Aristotle.
(c) Longinus. (d) Horace.
- 8 Who coined the term 'Unification of sensibilities' ?
- (a) John Donne. (b) Dryden.
(c) T.S Eliot. (d) None of these.
- III. 9 Who wrote 'Biographia Literaria' ?
- (a) Coleridge. (b) Keats.
(c) Byron. (d) None of these.
- 10 Who opined "poetry as a criticism of life" ?
- (a) John Ruskin. (b) Arnold.
(c) Walter Pater. (d) None of these.
- 11 Who opined that there is no difference between the language of prose and poetry ?
- (a) William Blake. (b) Thomas Grey.
(c) Walter Scott. (d) Wordsworth.





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- 12 Which among the following is true ?
- (a) Metaphor is a condensed form of simile.
 - (b) Metaphor is an elaborate form of simile.
 - (c) Metaphor is just the opposite of simile.
 - (d) All of these.
- IV. 13 Who was the originator of the Theory of Imitation in Literature ?
- (a) Longinus.
 - (b) Aristotle.
 - (c) Plato.
 - (d) Horace.
- 14 Who initiated the term 'New Criticism in English Literary Criticism' ?
- (a) Henry James.
 - (b) I.A. Richards.
 - (c) David Daiches.
 - (d) William Empson.
- 15 Which among the following terms is used by Russian formalists ?
- (a) Fabula.
 - (b) Irony.
 - (c) Aporia.
 - (d) Differance.
- 16 Who coined the term differance ?
- (a) Derrida.
 - (b) Foucault.
 - (c) Jameson.
 - (d) None of these.

(4 × 1 = 4)

PART B

*Answer any **five** of the following questions in a sentence **or** two.
Each question carries a weight of 1.*

- 17 What is Defamiliarisation ?
- 18 What is Opojaz group ?
- 19 Who are the proponents of Reader-response criticism ?
- 20 What is Myth ?

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- 21 What is primary imagination ?
- 22 What is touchstone method ?
- 23 Who are the chicago critics ?
- 24 What is close reading ?

(5 × 1 = 5)

PART C

*Answer any **four** of the following questions each in about 100 words
Each question carries a weight of 2.*

- 25 What are the postulates of reader response criticism ?
- 26 What is Synecdoche ? Give an example.
- 27 What are the tenets of structuralism ?
- 28 What is Absurd school ? What are its characteristics ?
- 29 Attempt a critical appreciation of the following passage :

One of the most remarkable facts about water is its power to carry silt or finely dividend soils suspension. This is the origin of the characteristic colour of the water in rain-fed tanks. This colour varies with the nature of the earth in the catchment area and is most vivid immediately after a fresh inflow following rain. Swiftly flowing water can carry fairly large and heavy particles. The fine particles, however, remain floating within the liquid in spite of their greater density and are carries to large distances. Such particles are, of course, extremely small, but then number is also great and incredibly large amount of solid matter can be transported in this way. When silt-laden water mixes with the salt-water of the sea there is a rapid precipitation of the suspended matter. This can be readily seen when one travels by streamer down a great river to the deep sea. The colour of water changes successively from the muddy red or brown of silt through varying shades of yellow and green finally to the blue of the deep sea. That great tracts of land have been formed by silt thus deposited is evident on an examination of the soil in alluvial areas. Such land, consisting as its does of finely divided matter, is usually every fertile.

- 30 Attempt a critical appreciation of the following poem.

No Madonna and Child could touch that picture of a mother's tenderness for a son she soon would have to forget.





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The air was heavy with odours of diarrhoea of unwashed children with washed-out ribs and dried-up bottoms struggling in laboured steps behind blown empty bellies. Most mother there had long ceased to care but not this one ; she held a ghost smile between her teeth and in her eyes the ghost of a mothers pride as she combed the rust-coloured hair left on his skull and then singing in her eyes-began carefully to part it. In another life this would have been a little daily act of non consequence before his breakfast and school ; now she did it like putting flowers on a tiny grave.

(4 × 2 = 8)

PART D

*Answer any **two** of the following each in about 300 words.*

Each question carries a weight of 4.

- 31 How does Kuppusawmi Sastri establish the highways of Sanskrit literary criticism ?
- 32 Write an essay on the origin and development of Reader Response Criticism.
- 33 Write an essay on Matthew Arnold's contributions to Victorian Criticism.

(2 × 4 = 8)

