

U.G. 4th Semester Examination - 2026

ENGLISH

[MAJOR-V]

Course Code : ENG-MJ-T-5

(Literary Criticism up to 1800)

[NEP-2020]

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ Hours

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.
Candidates are required to give their answers in their
own words as far as practicable.*

UNIT-I

[Marks : 20]

If students answer **Question No. 1** from **Group A**, they must answer **Question No. 2** from **Group B**, and if they answer **Question No. 2** from **Group A**, they must answer **Question No. 1** from **Group B**.

GROUP-A

1. Answer any **one** of the following: $10 \times 1 = 10$
 - a) Write an essay on Aristotle's views on the best kinds of tragic plot.
 - b) How does Aristotle establish his claim that plot is the "source and the soul of tragedy"?
2. Answer any **two** of the following: $5 \times 2 = 10$
 - a) Why does Aristotle defend poetic imitation (*mimesis*)?
 - b) What is the primary use of diction?
 - c) Write a brief note on recognition in tragedy.

GROUP-B

1. Answer any **one** of the following: $10 \times 1 = 10$
 - a) How according to Bharata, do the structural components of *bhāva* (*vibhāva*, *anubhāva*,
[Turn over]

and *vyabhicārin*) combine to evoke a universal aesthetic experience (*rasa*) in the spectator?

- b) According to Chapter VI of *Natyasastra*, "secondary *rasas* arise out of the primary ones". With reference to this statement:

- i) Identify the four specific pairs of primary and secondary *rasas*.
- ii) Discuss how an actor uses different modes of expressions (*abhinaya*) to navigate between the primary and secondary *rasas* during a performance.

2. Answer any two of the following: $5 \times 2 = 10$

- a) Write a short note on the basis, characteristics and representation of the Erotic Sentiment (*srngāra*).
- b) Explain the concept of the Heroic Sentiment (*vīra*) with specific reference to its determinants (*vibhāva*) and consequents (*anubhāva*).
- c) Explain the food analogy used by Bharata in the *Natyasastra* (Chapter VI) to describe how the audience experiences *rasa*.

UNIT-II and UNIT-III

[Marks : 20]

If students answer Question No. 3 from Unit II, they must answer Question No. 4 from Unit III, and if they answer Question No. 4 from Unit II, they must answer Question No. 3 from Unit III.

UNIT-II

3. Answer any one of the following: $10 \times 1 = 10$

- a) Write an essay on Sidney's views of poetry.
- b) Discuss Neander as the spokesperson of the author in *An Essay Of Dramatick Poesie*.

4. Answer any two of the following: $5 \times 2 = 10$

- a) "Her world is brazen, the poets only deliver a golden". Explain.
- b) How does Eugenius argue in favour of ancient drama?
- c) Who is referred to as "the Homer, or Father of our Dramatic Poets" by John Dryden, and why?

UNIT-III

3. Answer any one of the following: $10 \times 1 = 10$

- a) What, for William Wordsworth, are the faculties of a poet?
- b) Discuss Friedrich Schiller's concept of the naive.

4. Answer any two of the following: $5 \times 2 = 10$

- a) What is Wordsworth's remark on the affinity of metrical language with that of prose?
- b) What according to Wordsworth, are the causes that 'blunt' the "discriminating powers" of the mind?
- c) How, according to Friedrich Schiller, does a plain flower or a mossy stone fill us with a certain melancholy and simultaneously transpose us into a sublime emotion?

Question No. 5 is compulsory.

5. Answer any ten of the following: $2 \times 10 = 20$

- i) Why did Sir Philip Sidney write *The Defence of Poesy*?
- ii) What is the moral function of poetry, according to Sir Philip Sidney?
- iii) Why does Dryden use four distinct speakers in *An Essay of Dramatick Poesie*?

- iv) What is the ultimate goal of drama according to Neander?
 - v) What is Neander's view on the unity of place?
 - vi) "Humour was his proper Sphere, and in that he delighted most to represent Mechanick people." Whose "sphere" is the speaker referring to, and why?
 - vii) Which dramatic genre did Neander support, and why?
 - viii) What is the main objective of writing the "Preface" to the *Lyrical Ballads*?
 - ix) What according to Wordsworth in the "Preface" to the *Lyrical Ballads* is the primary purpose of writing poetry?
 - x) Why does Wordsworth argue that poetry is the "breath and finer spirit of all knowledge"?
 - xi) Why does Wordsworth reject the language of eighteenth-century poets?
 - xii) What according to Wordsworth, happens if a poet relies too heavily on mechanical poetic rules?
 - xiii) Who according to Friedrich Schiller can attain the status of a sacred object?
 - xiv) What does Friedrich Schiller identify as the primary subject or theme of an elegy?
 - xv) What does Friedrich Schiller say about the failure of a corrupted man?
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