

**MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2018**

**Second Year, Third Semester**

**ENGLISH**

**Literary Theory and Cultural Studies**

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer all questions.

All questions carry equal marks.

1a. How do Marx, Nietzsche and Freud question Descartes?

Or

1b. Discuss Plato's epistemological critique of artistic mimesis with reference to *The Republic*.

Or

1c. Discuss the best forms of tragic plots in the light of Aristotle's comments in the 13th and 14th chapters of the *Poetics*.

Or

1d. "[H]er world is brazen, the poets only deliver a golden." How does Sidney's essay seek to validate the transformative power of poetic creation?

2a. How does Wordsworth's Preface to *Lyrical Ballads* depoliticise the political aspect of the Lockean tradition and offer a purified form of language for literary purposes?

Or

2b. Discuss with examples the fallacies of Arnold's critical method as evident in "The Study of Poetry."

Or

2c. What place does Eliot reserve for personality in his essay "Tradition and the Individual Talent"?

Or

2d. Discuss in detail any three basic tenets of New Historicism with reference to the essay "Invisible Bullets."

3a. Explain, with specific examples, two innovative methodologies research that cultural studies scholars have used.

Or

3b. What were the dominant theories of the unconscious in the eighteenth century? How did they differ from Locke's notion of the mind?

Or

3c. Do you agree with Homi Bhabha's assertion that the divide between theory and activism is no longer relevant for socialist progressive action? Elucidate your point of view.

Or

3d. Do men and women write and read differently? Discuss how some Anglo Saxon feminist literary theoreticians have attempted to answer this question.

Or

3e. Why was it necessary to have a "queer" theory rather than gay and lesbian studies as it used to be earlier?