

BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2017
Second Year Fourth Semester
ENGLISH (HONOURS)
Postcolonial Theory

Time: 2 hours

Marks: 30

Answer any three questions taking one from each group. Each question carries 10 marks.

Group A

1. Orientalism is not merely an academic discipline but a discourse of power, an ideology and a methodology. Discuss.
2. '[H]umanistic functions traditionally associated with the study of literature...are also essential to the process of sociopolitical control'. Examine the validity of this statement by Gauri Vishwanathan in her essay.
3. 'And as long as the English language is universal it will always remain Indian.... as long as we are Indian—that is, *not nationalists*, but truly Indians of the Indian psyche—we shall have the English language with us and amongst us.' – Do you agree with this statement?
4. Examine the contentious issues associated with interculturalism in postcolonial theatre.

Group B

5. How does the typology of 'piracy' haunt all anti-colonial nationalisms? Is it possible for anti-colonial nationalism to imagine a way out of such a typology?
6. How and at what stage of the dialectic does the lord become the bondsman's truth and the bondsman become the lord's truth? Discuss with reference to Hegel's *Phenomenology of Spirit*.
7. Why was it necessary to break away from the First World rhetoric queer identities, after the LGBTQ movement began to gather momentum in the former colonies?

Group C

8. Discuss how and why Spivak reads Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre* and Jean Rhys's *Wide Sargasso Sea* as allegories of 'the general epistemic violence of imperialism'.
9. What do you understand by 'contrapuntal reading' in the discipline of postcolonial studies? With reference to Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, explain how a contrapuntal reading of the text, can reveal hidden power structures.
10. Attempt a Saidian reading of Darcy's relationships in *Pride and Prejudice*