

Ref: Ex/ENG/PG/2.1/2024

Jadavpur University
MA English Examination 2024
First Year Second Semester
Core paper: Literary Theory I: Classical to Enlightenment

Time; 2 Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer any three of the following questions:

3x10= 30

1. Why does Plato decide to banish poets from his ideal state? Is Philip Sidney's *Defense of Poesie* an adequate refutation of Plato's position?
2. Critically discuss Dryden's appraisal of English drama of the pre-Civil War era vis-à-vis French drama in *An Essay of Dramatic Poetry*.
3. Distinguish between the 'sublime' and the 'beautiful' as postulated by Kant in his third *Critique*. Does art have any bearing upon morality or vice-versa according to this work?
4. Do you think Lessing rates poetry higher than the plastic/visual arts in *Laocoon*? Give reasons for your answer.
5. How does Aristotle turn Plato's critique of imitative literature—specifically tragedy—on its head through his re-description of '*mimesis*' and '*catharsis*'?
6. Discuss the significance of 'nature' in Schiller's new classification of poetry into 'naive' and 'sentimental'?
7. Discuss the significance of 'invention' in Castelvetro's conception of poetic excellence.