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**St Aloysius College (Autonomous)  
Mangaluru**

**Semester IV – P.G. Examination – M.A. English**

**May – 2024**

**POSTCOLONIALISM**

**Time: 3 hrs.**

**Max Marks: 70**

**UNIT- I**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. Apply the basic tenets of *Orientalism* to any two works prescribed to you this semester.
2. Delineate the features of a postcolonial society with the help of any two essays prescribed to you this semester.
3. Delineate the major arguments which Homi K. Bhabha makes in his essay.

**UNIT-II**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. How does "Forests of Europe" talk about the crisis an individual faces when pegged against forces of power?
2. Compare and contrast the poetry of Agha Shahid Ali and Michael Ondaatje for their depiction of South-Asian themes.
3. "The us/other binary is a recurring feature in Australian Aboriginal poetry." Discuss with specific reference to Judith Wright's poetry.

**UNIT-III**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. Discuss *Indian History Made Easy* from a postcolonial perspective.
2. Compare and contrast *Indian History Made Easy* to any other drama of your choice.
3. Analyze *Death and the King's Horseman* with specific reference to the us/them binary presented in the play.

**UNIT-IV**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. Critically evaluate any two characters from *The Famished Road* with respect to their motivations.
2. Critically evaluate *Midnight's Children* as a breakthrough work of postcolonial literature.
3. "Be it Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things* or Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children* a novel doesn't become a postcolonial novel merely for being written after 1947." Evaluate.

**UNIT-V**

**Write short notes on any TWO of the following: (2x5=10)**

1. Elesin
2. Orature
3. Significance of the title *Midnight's Children*
4. "Bora Ring"

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**Semester IV – P.G. Examination – M.A. English**  
**May – 2024**

**CULTURAL STUDIES**

**Time: 3 hrs.**

**Max Marks: 70**

**UNIT- I**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. How does Bourdieu explain the constitution of symbolic systems as structured structures, using the theories of Durkheim and Marx? Explain.
2. Explain how "Cultural Studies" emerged as a discipline in Great Britain in early 1950's as a reaction to Leavisism.
3. Why does Williams insist that it is important to understand "the operation of a selective tradition?" Explain with reference to the essay "The Analysis of Culture."

**UNIT-II**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. What qualifications and amendments does Williams suggest to the Marxist idea of superstructure? Explain.
2. Bourdieu states that in feudal societies, differentiation was between "bellatores (warriors) and oratores (scholars)" and in modern capitalist societies it is between "businessmen and intellectuals." Explain this with reference to his essay.
3. Critically comment on Foucault's view that the Panopticon is concerned with "individualizing observation, with characterization and classification, with the analytical arrangement of space."

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**UNIT-III**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. "The story of Romance hails its readers, who believe it possible to pursue their own pleasure by serving as witness to the romantic heroine's achievement of hers." Critically examine this statement with reference to Janice Radway's essay.
2. American feminism stems from the American housewife's dilemma "that she does not have the privacy to follow real interests of her own." Critically analyse this statement with reference to Betty Friedan's text "Sexual Sell".
3. Bell Hooks argues that the American academia is yet to free itself from racist prejudices. Explain her argument with reference to her essay, "A Revolution of Values."

**Contd...2**

**UNIT-IV**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. How does Walter Benjamin distinguish between "cult value" and "exhibition value" of art works in his discussion on mechanical reproduction? Explain.
2. "The culture industry perpetually cheats its consumers of what it perpetually promises." Explain this statement of Adorno and Horkheimer with reference to the essay "Culture Industry."
3. Why does Jonathan Sterne believe that "the auditory dimension is almost always left out," whereas, "visual culture" is at the centre of cyber culture studies?"

**UNIT-V**

**Answer any TWO of the following in about 150 words: (2x5=10)**

1. Write a note on schools and hospitals as institutional mechanisms of discipline.
2. Write a note on film as the "new poetic medium where the virtual and the real coincide."
3. Explain race as a marker of African-American identity.
4. Write a short note on popular culture or mass culture.

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**Semester IV – P.G. Examination – M.A. English  
May – 2024**

**AMERICAN LITERATURE - II**

Time: 3 hrs.

Max Marks: 70

**UNIT- I**

**Answer any ONE of the following: (15)**

1. What are the arguments presented by Spiller in "The Cycle of American Literature"?
2. Explore the relationship between Thoreau's thoughts on individual conscience and the broader concept of justice as seen in "Civil Disobedience".
3. Critically analyse the role played by the nineteenth century to create an American culture as discussed by John Paul Pritchard in "Criticism in America".

**UNIT-II**

**Answer any ONE of the following: (15)**

1. Explore the theme of motherhood as portrayed in *Beloved*.
2. "The Catcher in the Rye is essentially a novel of childhood innocence and of growing up". Discuss.
3. "Man can be defeated, but not destroyed". Discuss the statement in light of *The Old Man and the Sea*.

**UNIT-III**

**Answer any ONE of the following: (15)**

1. Explore the theme of isolation and loneliness as seen in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*
2. Critically analyse the ending of the play *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*.
3. Explore the theme of illusion and reality in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. How do the characters use illusions to cope with their lives?

**UNIT-IV**

**Answer any ONE of the following: (15)**

1. Discuss the significance of the title, *The Shadow Box*. How does it relate to the themes and overall message the movie?
2. Consider the ending of *A Delicate Balance* and discuss how it reflects the overall themes of the movie.
3. Analyze the characters of Agnes and Tobias. How does their marriage reflect the 'delicate balance' mentioned in the title, *A Delicate Balance*?

**UNIT-V**

**Write short notes on any TWO of the following: (2x5=10)**

1. The Sharks
2. Walden Pond
3. Maggie in *The Shadow Box*
4. Stella in *A Streetcar named Desire*



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**Semester IV – P.G. Examination – M.A. English  
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**CULTURES OF DAKSHINA KANNADA IN TRANSLATION**

Time: 3 hrs.

Max Marks: 70

**UNIT- I****Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. "Dakshina Kannada is a liminal-locale, lending it rich diversity." Comment with the help of specific texts prescribed to you this semester to support your answers.
2. Discuss the four areas in which translation studies can be employed in?
3. Can a culture be "translated"? Discuss with the help of texts prescribed to you this semester.

**UNIT-II****Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. Critically examine the portrayal of the culture of erstwhile Dakshina Kannada in Gulavadi Venkat Rao's *Indira Bai: A Triumph of Truth and Virtue*
2. How does *Choma's Drum* address the impact of caste discrimination in the life of Choma?
3. Examine the portrayal of gender and religion as seen in Gulavadi Venkat Rao's *Indira Bai: A Triumph of Truth and Virtue*.

**UNIT-III****Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. Explicate how *Bamonn* traces the history of Roman Catholics in Mangalore.
2. "Gopalakrishna Pai succeeds in weaving a tale which does not romanticize but tells history through fiction, striking a critical balance." Comment with specific reference to *Swapna Saraswatha*.
3. What picture of DK's society and cultural practises do *Bamonn* and *Swapna Saraswatha* provide? Cite examples from the novel to support your answer.

**UNIT-IV****Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. "*Mittabail Yamunakka* is the story of an Indian independence struggle." Discuss.
2. How does the protagonist of *Unheard Sounds Flow On* rebel against the society in which he lives?
3. Discuss the transformation of Saraswatibai Rajwade to Giribale as seen in *Just a Few Pages*.

**UNIT-V****Write short notes on any TWO of the following: (2x5=10)**

1. Belli in *Choma's Drum*
2. Religious diversity of DK
3. Gandhiji in *Mittabail Yamunakka*
4. Spirituality in *Just a Few Pages*

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**Semester IV – P.G. Examination – M.A. English**  
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**GENDER STUDIES**

Time: 3 hrs.

Max Marks: 70

**UNIT-I**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. How does Banerji attempt to create a chronicle for the evolution of the Indian understanding of sex in her *Sex and Power*? Discuss.
2. "The biological does not determine the social." Comment with specific reference to Connell's essay and views on "multiple masculinities."
3. What is the significance of Butler's concept of performativity in the context of gender identity?

**UNIT-II**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. "The characters in *The Hours* grapple with issues of identity, especially in relation to societal expectations". Discuss.
2. Discuss marriage as a theme as presented in *The Thousand Faces of Night*.
3. Examine the theme of gender dysphoria as seen in A Revathi's autobiography.

**UNIT-III**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. Critically evaluate any two female characters in *Lights Out*.
2. Critically evaluate how class overrides gender dynamics in *A Doll's House*.
3. How are gender roles portrayed in *A Raisin in the Sun*, and how do the characters challenge or conform to traditional gender expectations?

**UNIT-IV**

**Answer any ONE of the following in about 300 words: (15)**

1. Compare and contrast any two female characters of your choice from *Barbie* and *The Danish Girl*.
2. Examine Lili Elbe's journey of self-discovery and gender identity in the narrative in *The Danish Girl*.
3. Critically evaluate the "monologue" scene in *Barbie* with the help of other examples from the movie.

**UNIT-V**

**Write short notes on any TWO of the following: (2x5=10)**

1. The Hijara community in India
2. Lingam Yoni
3. Fact and fiction in *The Danish Girl*
4. Nora

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