

(i) Printed Pages : 2

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(ii) Questions : 5

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Master of Arts (English) 4th Semester
(2042)

CRITICAL THEORY-II

Paper—XIV

Time Allowed : Three Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 80

Note :— Attempt all questions. All questions carry equal marks, and are to be answered in about 600 words each.

1. Are all historical narratives verbal fictions ? What does Hayden White have to say on the idea of historical narratives being verbal fictions ?

OR

What does Hayden White mean by "the naïve form of chronicle"? What meaning, if any, can such chronicles have ?

2. Attempt a critique of Raymond Williams's main ideas in "From Reflection to Mediation".

OR

In what type of analysis, is "a cultural process seized as a cultural system"? Discuss in detail what Williams understand by 'epochal' analysis and historical analysis.

3. "Gender reality is performative which means that it is real only to the extent that it is performed". Discuss.

OR

Write an essay on Judith Butler's contribution to critical theory.

4. Explain what Bhabha means when he writes that "mimicry is at once resemblance and menace".

OR

Do Bhabha's ideas help you in rethinking postcolonialism ? Also, comment on his style of writing.

5. Which context/s does Aijaz Ahmad focus on in the prescribed chapter from *In Theory* ? What reasons does he give for presenting "a very complex history in telegraphic terms"?

OR

What makes Aijaz Ahmad write that "Much of the avant-garde literary theory of today comes out of such moorings, intellectual and political, with a distinctly consumptionist slant" ? Attempt a detailed answer.