

2031
M.A (English) First Semester
Paper – II: Approaches to Literary Criticism - I

Time allowed: 3 Hours

Max. Marks: 80

NOTE: Attempt all questions.

x-x-x

- I. Through *The Mirror and the Lamp* M H Abrams delineates a radical shift in aesthetics and a remarkable turn in sensibility of poetic creation. Discuss.

OR

W B Yeats cited in the epigraph of *The Mirror and the Lamp* says, "It must go further still: that soul must become/ its own betrayer, its own deliverer, the one/ activity, the mirror and the lamp". How does the analytic distinction between the mirror and the lamp serve to structure the different approaches to literary criticism by M H Abrams?

(16)

- II. Discuss the major concerns of historical approach to literary criticism. Illustrate from literary works of your choice.

OR

Men have been shaped by the environments and tendencies of their age which is reflected in literature. Elucidate upon Hippolyte Taine's view.

(16)

- III. Why is form important to Formalist Criticism? How does it convey meaning? Support your answer with examples from literary works.

OR

Brooks argued that meaning in poetry is irreducible, because "a true poem is a simulacrum of reality...an experience rather than any mere statement about experience or any mere abstraction from experience". In the light of this statement, discuss the pitfalls of paraphrasing poetry.

(16)

P.T.O.

(2)

- IV. Discuss the importance of psychoanalytical theories to the reading of literature. Explain with examples from literary works of your choice.

OR

Trilling in "Freud and Literature" clarifies that psychoanalysis is an experimental and new approach to understanding the hidden meaning of a text if it will be used with "liberal imagination". Discuss. (16)

- V. "Myths are by nature collective and general." Critically examine the statement in the light of Archetypal approach with respect to literary criticism.

OR

Explain the significance of 'colours' and 'seasons' with reference to Northrop Frye's theory of literature based on myths and archetypes. (16)

x-x-x