

2024

ENGLISH

Paper : CC-XII

(Literary Theory)

Full Marks : 40

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

*Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words
as far as practicable.*

Long and short questions should not be attempted from the same text subunit.

Unit - I

1. Answer **any one** of the following : 15×1
 - (a) "To give a text an Author is to impose a limit on the text."– Would you say this statement holds the core idea of Roland Barthes' essay 'The Death of the Author'? Discuss in detail.
 - (b) Critically comment on the communicative reading process outlined in Iser's text in your syllabus.
2. Answer **any one** of the following : 5×1
 - (a) Write briefly on Roland Barthes' concept of the text as a "multi-dimensional space".
 - (b) Write in brief on "Theme and background".

Unit - II

3. Answer **any one** of the following : 15×1
 - (a) "For Derrida what is interesting about structuralism is that it is at once reflection and disruption of metaphysics." Comment on the validity of the statement with reference to Derrida's critique of Claude Levi Strauss's writings in 'Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of Human Sciences'.
 - (b) Critically examine the rationale for the difference between the nature and the implications of the representation of the male figure and the female figure in the mainstream cinema, as suggested by Laura Mulvey.
 4. Answer **any one** of the following : 5×1
 - (a) Briefly comment on Derrida's notion of the 'play' towards the end of the essay 'Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of Human Sciences'.
 - (b) Bring out the significance of the following sentence :
"But the mass of mainstream film, and the conventions within which it has consciously evolved, portray a hermetically sealed world which unwinds magically, indifferent to the presence of the audience,..."
-