

FAROOK COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), KOZHIKODE

Third Semester MA Degree Examination, November 2025

MEN3C09– Twentieth century British literature: Post 1940

(2022 Admission onwards)

Time: 3 hours

Max. Weightage : 30

Part A**I. Answer the following questions in 2 or 3 sentences. (.5x6=3 weight)**

1. Name the two mysterious men who arrive uninvited in "The Birthday Party"
2. In which collection of poems by Seamus Heaney does "Punishment" appear?
3. "I write about violence as naturally as Jane Austen writes about manners" who said this?
4. How does the play "King Lear" by Bond's begin?
5. Comment on the title "Church Going"?
6. What is the theme of the poem "Pike"?

Part B**II. Annotate any two of the following. (2x2=4 weight)**

7. Now as I was young and easy under the apple boughs
About the lilting house and happy as the grass was green,
The night above the dingle starry,
Time let me hail and climb
Golden in the heydays of his eyes,
8. In ponds, under the heat-struck lily pads -
Gloom of their stillness:
Logged on last year's black leaves, watching upwards.
Or hung in an amber cavern of weeds
9. Damp curtains glued against the pane
Sealed time away. Her body froze
As if to freeze us all, and chain
Creation to a stunned repose.
10. There is a geometry of water, for this
Squares off the clouds' redundancies
And sets them floating in a nether atmosphere

Part C

III. Write an essay on any one of the following in 300 words. (1x3=3 weight)

11. How does the poem "Pike" explore the predatory nature of the fish through vivid imagery
12. Bond's use of violence as a defensive strategy to survive the unjust system
13. Narrative structure of "The Remains of the Day".

Part D

IV. Write an essay on four of the following choosing one from each section. (4x5=20 weight)

Section: 1

14. Existentialism as the central philosophy of Gunn's poem "On the Move".
15. The theme of memory and mortality in "The Last Call"?
16. The use of figurative language in "In Memory of Jane Frazer".

Section: 2

17. Protest in "Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner".
18. "The French Lieutenant's Woman" as a postmodern novel
19. Characterization in "Remains of the Day"?

Section: 3

20. "Top Girls" explores the complexities of career aspirations and societal expectations--Comment?
21. "Lucky Jim" is a social satire that uses humour to mock the pretensions and hypocrisies of the post-war academic elite, highlighting the anti-hero's capacity to manoeuvre in this milieu with a blend of awkwardness and unforeseen success.
22. Comment on the setting and structure of "Waiting for Godot"?

Section: 4

23. Absurdist theatre rejects realistic conventions in favour of symbolic dream like representations--Elucidate.
24. Different perspectives offered by poets on the theme of death and mortality in poetry as evidenced in the poems prescribed for study.
25. The use of metafictional techniques in fiction with reference to the texts prescribed for study

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MEN3C10- Literary Criticism and Theory - Part 2

(2022 Admission onwards)

Time: 3 hours

Max. Weightage : 30

Part A**I. Answer the following questions in 2 or 3 sentences. (.5 x 6 = 3 weight)**

1. In which year was *Culture and Imperialism* originally published?
2. What does Lacan mean by the ideal ego?
3. What is cultural poetics?
4. Who edited *The Green Studies Reader*?
5. Who said that "the centre is not the centre; the centre is elsewhere"?
6. In which work did Alice Walker propose the concept of womanism?

Part B**II. Answer any two of the following in a paragraph of 150 words. (2 x 2 = 4 weight)**

7. Environmental Imagination.
8. Strategic Essentialism.
9. Discourse.
10. The Imaginary Stage, according to Lacan.

Part C**III. Write an essay on any one of the following in 300 words. (1 x 3 = 3 weight)**

11. Langue and parole.
12. Jouissance.
13. Thin and Thick Descriptions.

Part D**IV. Write an essay on four of the following choosing one from each section. (4 x 5 = 20 weight)****Section: 1**

14. Demonstrate how structuralist narratology analyses the underlying structures of narrative texts. Discuss with reference to key theorists such as Gerard Genette and Roland Barthes.

15. Critically analyse how poststructuralism has emerged from a philosophical critique of structuralism.
16. Elucidate how Derrida's idea of "decentering" affects how we think about truth and meaning?

Section: 2

17. Discuss how Lacan's concept of the Mirror Stage explains the formation of identity and the ego in early childhood development.
18. Discuss the methodological and political implications of Showalter's call for a "feminist poetics." How does it differ from male-defined critical traditions, and what challenges does it pose to canonical literary theory?
19. Critically assess in what ways do identity-based feminisms such as Black Feminism, Dalit Feminism, and Lesbian Feminism challenge the universality of feminist discourse.

Section: 3

20. Examine how Montrose's concept of the "poetics and politics of culture" repositions the role of the literary text within its historical and ideological context.
21. Discuss the significance of Antigua in Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park* through Edward Said's analysis.
22. Critically evaluate the foundational contributions of Gayatri Spivak, Edward Said and Homi Bhabha to the development of postcolonial theory.

Section: 4

23. Evaluate Graham Good's critique of postcolonialism and new historicism as presentism.
24. Outline and explain the main features that define Ecocriticism as a novel literary and critical approach.
25. Discuss how Cheryll Glotfelty argues for the inclusion of environmental concerns in literary criticism.

Name:

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MEN3E02– European Fiction in Translation

(2022 Admission onwards)

Time: 3 hours

Max. Weightage : 30

Part A**I. Answer the following questions in 2 or 3 sentences. (.5x6=3 weight)**

1. Identify the narrative structure used in *If on a winter's night a traveller*.
2. What role does blindness play in the symbolic structure of Saramago's *Blindness*?
3. Name one major theme shared by *Madame Bovary* and *Anna Karenina*.
4. How does Kafka portray bureaucracy in *The Trial*?
5. What is the symbolic significance of the character Oskar's drum in *The Tin Drum*?
6. Who is Zorba in *Zorba the Greek*, and what philosophy does he embody?

Part B**II. Answer any two of the following in a paragraph of 150 words. (2x2=4 weight)**

7. What role does memory play in Milan Kundera's *The Joke*?
8. Comment on the political undertones in Orhan Pamuk's *Snow*.
9. Analyse the use of blindness as a metaphor in Jose Saramago's *Blindness*.
10. How does *If on a winter's night a traveller* explores the act of reading?

Part C**III. Write an essay on any one of the following in 300 words. (1x3=3 weight)**

11. Compare the portrayal of existential angst in *The Trial* and *The Joke*. How do Kafka and Kundera present the absurdity of systems—judicial or ideological?
12. Both *Madame Bovary* and *Anna Karenina* explore female desire and societal constraints. Analyze how each author constructs the tragic fate of their heroines.
13. Discuss the use of magical realism in *Blindness* and *The Tin Drum* as a means to critique historical or social conditions.

Part D

IV. Write an essay on four of the following choosing one from each section. (4x5=20 weight)

Section: 1

14. Examine *Don Quixote* as a metafictional text that questions the nature of reality and literature.
15. Analyse Emma Bovary as a tragic heroine shaped by the illusions of romantic literature.
16. Discuss the narrative techniques used by Tolstoy in *Anna Karenina*.

Section: 2

17. Evaluate the bureaucratic absurdity and existential themes in *The Trial*.
18. How does Kazantzakis contrast the intellectual and the sensual through the characters of the narrator and Zorba?
19. Critically assess the portrayal of post-war German identity in *The Tin Drum*.

Section: 3

20. Explore the tension between personal and political histories in *The Joke*.
21. How does Pamuk weave Islamic identity and secular politics in *Snow*?
22. Analyse the allegorical implications of blindness and social collapse in Saramago's novel.

Section: 4

23. Cervantes' *Don Quixote* is often considered the first modern novel. Compare its narrative experimentation with Calvino's *If on a winter's night a traveller*, focusing on metafictional techniques and reader involvement.
24. Compare *Zorba the Greek* and *Snow* in terms of ideological conflict—between East and West, body and soul, spirituality and materialism.
25. Evaluate the representation of personal identity in *The Joke* and *The Tin Drum*, Especially in relation to memory, history, and political ideology.

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MEN3E03– Women's Writing

(2022 Admission onwards)

Time: 3 hours

Max. Weightage : 30

Part A**I. Answer the following questions in 2 or 3 sentences. (.5x6=3 weight)**

1. In which collection was the poem 'Question Time' published?
2. What is the meaning of Rudali?
3. What is 'gender mainstreaming'?
4. What is the 'book of myths' referred to by Adrienne Rich?
5. "This girl has won the right to be ordinary". What does 'right to ordinary' mean in the context of the poem by Imtiaz Dharker?
6. What is Adiche's view on speaking in low tones about periods?

Part B**II. Answer any two of the following in a paragraph of 150 words. (2x2=4 weight)**

7. "The subaltern subject is irretrievably heterogenous". Explain.
8. Examine the 'quest for self', as represented in the 'quest for wreck'?
9. Attempt a character sketch of Margaret.
10. What are the symbols and motifs in Truth's speech?

Part C**III. Write an essay on any one of the following in 300 words. (1x3=3 weight)**

11. Examine the confrontation between two selves as represented in the 'Mirror'.
12. "Where did your Christ come from? Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman! Man had nothing to do with Him." Discuss.
13. Elaborate on the major feminist issues discussed by Adiche in the book *Dear Ijeawale, or A Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions*.

Part D

IV. Write an essay on four of the following choosing one from each section. (4x5=20 weight)

Section: 1

14. "If, in the contest of colonial production, the subaltern has no history and cannot speak, the subaltern as female is even more deeply in shadow." Explain.
15. "*A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* remains one of the foundation stones of contemporary feminism". Discuss.
16. How does Tejaswini Niranjana trace the confluence of cultural studies and women studies in India?

Section: 2

17. Comment on the title 'The Phenomenal Woman'.
18. How does Kishwar Naheed question the historical and mythological interpretation of women by men?
19. "We have poetry, so we do not die of history". Elucidate.

Section: 3

20. Compare and contrast the use of mirror as a symbol in 'The Looking Glass' and 'Mirror'.
21. Reflect on how revenge becomes a tool of defiance in *Prathikaradevatha*.
22. Discuss the significance of journey as a metaphor in *Ladies Coupe*.

Section: 4

23. Discuss the theme of female sexual desire in *Lives of Girls and Women*.
24. Explain how Zadie Smith uses the theme of multiculturalism in *White Teeth* to explore the complexities of identity and belonging.
25. Analyse Mahasweta Devi's literary technique in revealing the intersections of gender, caste, and class in *Rudali*.