

2025

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.*

The long and short answer type questions should not be attempted from the same text/subunits.

Unit - I

1. Answer **any one** of the following questions : 15×1
 - (a) The author, according to Roland Barthes, is only the conveyer of signifiers, not of meaning. Would you agree? Answer with reasons.
 - (b) Critically comment on the primacy of the 'reader' in Iser's 'Interaction between Text and Reader' with textural references.
2. Answer **any one** of the following questions : 5×1
 - (a) Write a short note on the idea of the act of writing as presented by Roland Barthes in 'The Death of the Author'.
 - (b) What does Iser mean by 'blank'?

Unit - II

3. Answer **any one** of the following questions : 15×1
 - (a) Critically comment on Derrida's idea of the 'event' in his essay 'Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences'.
 - (b) "At the same time the cinema has distinguished itself in the production of ego ideals as expressed in particular in the star system, the stars centring both screen presence and screen story as they act out a complex process of likeness and difference ..."

Discuss, in the light of the above excerpt, how the system of stardom depends mostly on a complex process of the spectator's engagement with the cinema as analysed in Laura Mulvey's 'Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema'.

Please Turn Over

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4. Answer **any one** of the following questions :

5×1

- (a) Briefly explain Derrida's views on 'totalization' with reference to his essay 'Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences'.
 - (b) Briefly discuss the way Laura Mulvey defines spectacle in 'Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema'.
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