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3 SEM FYUGP ENGC3B

2025

(Nov/Dec)

ENGLISH

(Core)

Paper : ENGC3B

(**Literary Criticism**)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

UNIT—I

1. Answer any *one* of the following : 10
- (a) In Book 10 of *The Republic*, Plato argues that the ultimate goal of human life is to achieve knowledge of the Form of the Good. How does he view the relationship between philosophy and art and how does this relate to his understanding of the human condition?
- (b) What are the key arguments that Plato presents against poetry in Book 10 of *The Republic*?
- (c) According to Aristotle, how do tragedies, comedies, and epic poetry differ in their uses of imitation? Do they ultimately

have the same goal in their imitation or must all three be judged by different standards? Discuss.

(d) Define six elements requisite for a successful tragedy.

2. Answer any *one* of the following : 5

(a) How does Plato view the relationship between reality, appearance and art?

(b) Write a note on Aristotle's conception of Tragic Hero.

(c) Discuss Aristotle's concept of imitation. How does he differ from Plato?

UNIT—II

3. Answer any *one* of the following : 10

(a) How does Horace's *Ars Poetica* illuminate the drama and conventions of his era?

(b) What does Horace highlight in the main body of his critical theory, *Ars Poetica*?

(c) Explain the different sources of sublimity.

(d) How does Longinus distinguish between true and false sublime?

4. Answer any *one* of the following : 5

(a) Discuss briefly Horace's principle of Decorum in *Ars Poetica*.

- (b) How does Longinus in *On the Sublime* discuss nobility of diction as a source of sublime?
- (c) How does Longinus define true grandeur in language?

UNIT—III

5. Answer any *one* of the following : 10
- (a) "Of all writers under the sun, the poet is the least liar; and though he would, as a poet, can scarcely be a liar. For the poet, he nothing affirmeth, and therefore never lieth." How does Sidney react to Stephen Gosson's *School of Abuse*?
- (b) How does Sidney prove superiority of Poetry over History and Philosophy?
- (c) Discuss Dryden's *Essay of Dramatic Poesy* as a survey of contemporary critical schools.
- (d) How does Dryden compare English and French drama in *Essay of Dramatic Poesy*?
6. Answer any *one* of the following : 5
- (a) What are the three divisions that Sidney brings forth in poetry?
- (b) What does John Dryden say about poetic justice in *Essay of Dramatic Poesy*?

- (c) How do Dryden's ideas in *Essay of Dramatic Poesy* differ from Pope's outlook?

UNIT—IV

7. Answer any one of the following : 10

(a) In the first part of *An Essay on Criticism*, Pope makes general observation on the art of criticism. Elucidate.

(b) "In his criticism, as in his poetry, Pope follows the classical tradition." Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.

(c) The analysis of Dr. Samuel Johnson's critical estimate in *Life of Cowley*, his methodology and perspectives further illustrate the evolving nature of literary criticism during the 18th century and its enduring influence. Discuss.

(d) How does Dr. Johnson assess Cowley as a poet?

8. Answer any one of the following : 5

(a) Write a note on the use of poetic diction in *An Essay on Criticism*.

(b) Discuss Dr. Johnson's account of Metaphysical poetry in *Life of Cowley*.

(c) Examine briefly Dr. Johnson's comparison of Milton and Cowley.
