

FOURTH SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, MARCH 2020

(CUCSS)

English

EN 4E 25—INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL STUDIES

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 36 Weightage

I. Answer *all* the following questions, each in a word, phrase or sentence :

- 1 How are Mythology and Ideology different from each other ?
- 2 What is the nationality of Eric Hobbsbawm ?
- 3 Why does Bourdieu speak of “Reflexive Sociology” ?
- 4 Define Semiotics.
- 5 What is pluralism ?
- 6 Distinguish between translation and transliteration.
- 7 What is meant by polycentrism ?
- 8 What is auratic art ?

(8 × ½ = 4 weightage)

II. Write a *paragraph* of about 150 words each, on any *six* of the following questions :

- 9 How does Raymond Williams appear as an advocate of cultural materialism ?
- 10 How does mechanical reproduction of art change the reaction of the masses towards art ?
- 11 How does Eric Hobbsbawm look at tradition ?
- 12 Politics is the prohibition of marginality. Explain.
- 13 Why does Stuart Hall regard television sign as a complex one ?
- 14 How does sports act as an important organizing institution for the embodiment of masculinity ?
- 15 What, according to Walter Benjamin, is the position of art in an age of mechanical reproduction ?
- 16 Why does Pierre Bourdieu think that sociological knowledge is superior to common sense ?
- 17 Explain what Gayle Rubin mean by sexual negativity.
- 18 Why does Shohat think of film as a new form of inter-war communication ?

(6 × 2 = 12 weightage)

Turn over

III. Write *essays* of about 450 words each, on any *four* of the following questions, choosing *one* from each section :

Section A

- 19 What kind of legacy is to be got rid of to make a good common culture ? Why ?
- 20 Signs within culture are never innocent, but rather they are caught up in the complex webs of ideological reproduction—Explain on line with Barthes.
- 21 Explain how Walter Benjamin looks at tradition which leads to a politicization of art.

Section B

- 22 How does Stuart Hall deal with the structuralist and the culturalist paradigms in his concerned write-up ?
- 23 Summarise the views of Eric Hobsbawm in his essay, 'Inventing Traditions'.
- 24 Examine the strategy adopted by Shohat in linking multiculturalism with the methodologies of media and cultural studies.

Section C

- 25 What, according to Spivak, are the ideologies involved in translation ?
- 26 Examine Stuart Hall's model of mass communication with its emphasis on active interpretation.
- 27 Explain the various fields that Bourdieu thinks of as the constituent elements of the social space.

Section D

- 28 Discuss the politics of sexuality that Gayle Rubin deals with in his essay.
- 29 How does R.W. Connell rethink the concept of hegemonic masculinity ?
- 30 Alexander Kluge says that film offers a number of possible pleasures. How ?

(4 × 5 = 20 weightage)