

(b) Femininity is a social construct and not a biological one. Do you agree? Explain, with suitable examples.

6. (a) Katherine Mansfield's 'The Voyage' poses a challenge to conventional ideas of parenting and family while seeking alternatives. Discuss.

OR

(b) "In a mathematical treatise, the ego who indicates the circumstances of composition in the preface is not identical, either in terms of his position or his function, to the 'I' who concludes a demonstration within the body of the text.' Explain what Foucault means by discourse as characterised by the author-function shifting across a plurality of egos, in the light of the sentence quoted above.

7. (a) Using the short stories in the course, discuss how ideas of self and freedom are shaped by social forces.

OR

(b) To what extent can cultures be interpreted as powerful instruments of 'othering' and marginalisation? Give examples from the essays in the syllabus.

(1500)

[This question paper contains 4 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 4948

J

Unique Paper Code : 2034001208

Name of the Paper : Culture and Theory
Generic Elective (GE)

Name of the Course : **Common Prog. Group**

Semester : II/IV/VI

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 90

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll. No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. **This question paper contains 2 parts. Both parts are compulsory.**
3. Candidates have to answer **ALL** the questions in **Part A** and **ANY THREE** questions in **Part B**.
4. Questions in **Part A** carry **10 marks each** and questions in **Part B** carry **20 marks each**.

P.T.O.

PART A

1. (a) Why does Nadya believe her mother Nina Ivanovna to be unhappy about her own circumstances. How does this belief influence Nadya's choices?

OR

- (b) "What recent theories of enunciation suggest is that, though we speak, so to say, 'in our own name', of ourselves and from our own experience, nevertheless who speaks, and the subject who is spoken of, are never identical, never exactly in the same place." Explain Stuart Hall's reasoning in the quoted sentence.
2. (a) Discuss the role of Rirette in Sartre's story 'Intimacy'.

OR

- (b) What is meant by the terms 'immanence' and 'transcendence' in Simone De Beauvoir's 'Introduction' to The Second Sex and how do they apply to the dynamics of gendered social relations.
3. (a) Explain the symbolism of the umbrella in the story 'The Voyage'.

OR

- (b) What does Foucault mean by arguing that writing has freed itself from "the necessity of expression"? How is this connected to the disappearance of the author as an individual?

PART B

4. (a) What is the significance of the sentence with which Chekhov chooses to end his story 'The Bride': "...said goodbye to her family, and full of life and high spirits, left the town - as she supposed for ever"? Discuss the closures as well as the open-ended possibilities it invites the reader to imagine.

OR

- (b) To what extent can identities be seen as mutable products of historically conditioned and 'marked' processes rather than be regarded as fixed 'givens'? Explain, using an example from Hall's essay.
5. (a) How does the theme of intimacy influence Lulu's self-image in Sartre's story 'Intimacy'?

OR