14 (ENG-3) 3046

## 2023

## **ENGLISH**

Paper: ENG-3046

(New Course)

(Modern Literary Criticism and Theory)

Full Marks: 80

Time: Three hours

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

- 1. Answer *any four* questions from those given below: 15×4=60
  - (a) What constitutes a Sign according to Saussure and what are the relations between its components? Show how he argues for a more scientific understanding of language through a reading of the prescribed text.

- (b) From your reading of Michel Foucault's prescribed essay, show how, through an analysis of the idea of the author, he arrives at the concept of the Authorfunction. What are his observations on the poststructuralist view about the death of the Author?
- (c) What are some of the important points of debate and discussion in Achebe's essay "Colonialist Criticism"? Give a well-reasoned answer citing instances from the essay.
- (d) Stuart Hall engages with some of the "theoretical moments in cultural studies" in the essay "Cultural Studies and its Theoretical Legacies". Critically comment on his reflections of those 'moments'.
- (e) "The modern style of interpretation excavates, and as it excavates, destroys". From your reading of the prescribed text, critically show how Susan Sontag differentiates between the ancient and modern styles of interpretation.

- (f) "Borges is essentially preoccupied by problems of narrative: but he poses these problems idiosyncratically, fictively". Attempt a critical understanding of Pierre Macherey's interpretation of the nature of Borges's narratives through a reading of the prescribed text.
- 2. Write short critical notes on: (any two)  $10 \times 2 = 20$ 
  - (i) Achebe and 'Universality'
  - (ii) Stuart Hall and the feminist influence in Cultural Studies
  - (iii) Foucault and Marx/Freud as 'founders of discursivity'.
  - (iv) Saussure and Onomatopoeia/ Interjections.