



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, ABUJA

Faculty of Arts

Department of Languages

2021_1 EXAMINATION⁴⁵⁶⁷

COURSE CODE: ENG 815

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED LITERARY THEORY AND CRITICISM

TIME ALLOWED: 3Hours

Answer FOUR Questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1a. M.H. Abrams, in his 1953 seminal essay, 'Orientation of Critical Theories, posits that four elements are discriminated as constituting common trends within recognisable theories. Discuss the four categories of literary theories as postulated by Abrams. (8 Marks)

b. Plato uses a number of methods to communicate his theory of literature. Discuss any four of the methods. (8 Marks)

Good expression will earn additional 1.5 marks.

Total: (17.5 Marks)

2. a. Attempt a critical analysis of Philip Sydney's significance within the scope of English Literary History. (7.5 Marks)

b. An essay on Dramatic Poesy, according to Dryden, adopts a number of styles. Discuss, with relevant illustrations, five of such styles. (10 Marks)

3.a. William Wordsworth, in "Preface to the Lyrical Ballads", uses a number of styles in his argument. Discuss five of the styles, with appropriate illustrations. (10 Marks)

b. Attempt a critique of Roland Barthes' major postulations in his essay, "The Structural Activity". (7.5 Marks) **45mins (17.5 Marks)**

4. With emphasis on its origin, major practitioners and basic tenets, discuss the concerns of Psychoanalysis as a prominent form of literary theory and criticism. **45mins (17.5 marks)**

5. With appropriate illustrations, discuss the major theoretical concerns of Marxist and Feminist literary theories. **45mins (17.5 marks)**