Attempt any three questions. Each question carries 25 marks

Answers to be written in 750-1000 words

1. “What is a poet? To whom does he address himself? And what language is to be expected from him? He is a man speaking to men”. Discuss Wordsworth’s definition of a poet in the light of this statement.

2. In response to Wordsworth’s description of poetic composition, T. S. Eliot writes, “‘emotion recollected in tranquillity’ is an inexact formula. For it is neither emotion, nor recollection, nor, without distortion of meaning, tranquillity”. Explain T. S. Eliot’s critique of Romantic theory in the context of the idea of depersonalization in “Tradition and the Individual Talent.”

3. “A few conjectures, a supply of admonitions, many acute isolated observations, some brilliant guesses, much oratory and applied poetry, inexhaustible confusion, a sufficiency of dogma, no small stock of prejudices, whimsies and crotchets, a profusion of mysticism, a little genuine speculation, sundry stray inspirations, pregnant hints and random aperçus; of such as these, it may be said without exaggeration, is extant critical theory composed.” – Comment on I. A. Richards’ assessment of the history of literary criticism based on the above statement.

4. Examine the different kinds of meanings discussed by I. A. Richards in his Practical Criticism.

5. For Cleanth Brooks “paradoxes spring from the nature of poetry”. Discuss Brooks’ theory of paradoxes and its centrality in the appreciation of poetry.

6. The paper Literary Criticism in your syllabus demonstrates that different conceptions of the function of art and the process of artistic creation can lead to radically different literary-critical orientations. Write an essay that focuses on your response to the variety of critical positions and theoretical premises that you have encountered in this paper.