

Literary Criticism

I- Indicate whether the following statements are true (✓) or false (X). (٢٥ Marks)

١- T

٢- F

٣- T

٤- T

٥- F

II- Fill in the gaps with the appropriate word(s). ٢٠

١- Barthes

٢- Intentional fallacy

٣- Intrusive

٤- Colonialism

٥- Micheal Foucault

III- Answer ONE of the following questions. (٣٠ marks)

١- What is Orientalism for Edward Said and how can it be applied on Shelley's "Ozymandias"?

"Anyone who writes about, or researches the Orient, is an Orientalist and what he or she does is Orientalism". Orientalism is a style of thought based upon an ontological and epistemological distinction made between "the Orient" and (most of the time) "the Occident." it is a "Western style for dominating, restructuring and having authority over the Orient". A reading concerned with questions of race might start from the fact that this English poem deals with a racial other – Egyptian or African – and explore the way in which such otherness is inscribed in the poem. The fact that the land is referred to as 'antique', for example, entirely effaces any possibility of a contemporary civilization and culture there. There is nothing beside the barrenness of the 'lone and

level sands'. For this poem, Africa apparently only signifies in terms of a mythical past.

٢- Thomas Wyatt's 'Whoso List to Hunt' is an example of gender stereotypes. Discuss.

feminist criticism seeks on the one hand to investigate and analyze the differing representations of women and men in literary texts and, on the other hand, to rethink literary history by exploring an often marginalized tradition of women's writing. Wyatt's sonnet figures men and women in a number of gender-stereotypical ways. Man is the hunter, woman is the hunted. Man is the subject, active, full of 'travail', whereas woman is the object, indeed she is not even figured as human but instead as simply 'an hind', a female deer. Moreover Wyatt's poem integrates this gender-stereotyping within its very structure of address. The poem, that is to say, is addressed to men (to those who wish, or 'list', to hunt), not to women: in this way it appears to offer a classic example of the construction or assumption of the reader as male.

Seminar question. ٢٠ marks

١- What is meant by new criticism?

New criticism (formalism) emphasizes form – 'the words on the page'. The life of the author, his intentions, history and ideology are not important. The text is 'autonomous'. Correspondingly, readers' reactions are also irrelevant. For new critics, then, what is important is to pay attention to the words of texts themselves and to ignore the subjective impressionism of the reader's response. The focus should be on elements of form, such as irony, ambiguity and paradox.

الجمهورية العربية السورية-جامعة حماه-كلية الآداب والعلوم الإنسانية-قسم اللغة الانكليزية- امتحان الفصل الأول
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=====Good Luck=====

M. Ali Al-Sharief