

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
BA DEGREE IN SOCIAL SCIENCES – LEVEL 5
FINAL EXAMINATION– 2021/2022 (2nd Semester)
DSU5352 – SOCIAL THEORY**



DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 12th February 2023

Time: 9.30am – 12.30pm

Instructions:

Answer FIVE (05) questions only. Each answer carries equal marks.

1. What are the key ideas that influenced George Herbert Mead's interactionism? Explain with examples how they helped Mead's perspective on the development of the self.
2. Explain the central ideas of Frankfurt School theorists with reference to their work.
3. "Juergen Habermas argues that by resurrecting the public sphere with more emphasis on communicative action modern society can be improved". Examine this statement by focusing on the key aspects of Habermas' understanding of modern society.
4. "Women's participation in the Sri Lankan economy remains low". Discuss this statement using feminist perspectives to understand the position of women in Sri Lanka.
5. "Structuralism and Post-structuralism are fundamentally the same". Do you agree? Explain your answer.
6. "A discourse creates its own reality". Explain this statement with reference to Michel Foucault's concept of discourse.
7. Explain Pierre Bourdieu's analysis of class structure and how it is linked to different types of capital in society.
8. "Society is an interconnected process between agency and structure that reproduces and transforms social life". Explain this statement with reference to Anthony Giddens' work.
9. Write short notes on any four (04).
 - a. Habitus
 - b. Semiotic theory of culture
 - c. Technocratic consciousness
 - d. Role-taking in interactionism
 - e. Standpoint epistemology
 - f. Signifier-signified

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