

ART AND TECHNOLOGY

Major

2 hours Max

Marks 20

All questions carry 5 marks each.

1. *The equipment-free aspect of reality here has become the height of artifice; the sight of immediate reality has become an orchid in the land of technology.*

Discuss. You must indicate the context in which this statement appears.

2. *Look at the dried dung!
What for?*

If I had said 'look at the sunset!' would you have asked 'What for?'

People view sunsets aesthetically. Sunsets are customary objects of aesthetic attention. So are tree rocks wild flowers, clouds, women, leaping gazelles, prancing horses; all these are sometime objects of aesthetic attention. But not everything is; not soiled linen, greasy dishes, bleary eyes, false teeth, not excrement.

Why not? It's not because they're unbeautiful or even ugly. Beautiful things are no problem for a rambling aesthetic eye but not all objects of aesthetic attention are beautiful.: Grunewald's Crucifixion isn't neither is Picasso's Guernica.

*Paul Ziff in Antiaesthetics: An Appreciation of the Cow
with the Subtle Nose*

Do you agree? Discuss.

3. Discuss the differences between digital and analog media in the context of the relationship between art and technology. Do you think that the characteristics of digital media open up new creative possibilities for art? How and Why?
4. How can we moved by the fate of fictional characters? Here is a possible answer: If and when we weep for the character, we weep for the pain and anguish that a real person might suffer and which real persons have suffered, and if his/her situation were not of that sort we should not be moved.