

POST-GRADUATE COURSE
Term End Examination — June, 2017

ENGLISH

Paper-III : British Drama

Time : 4 Hours

Full Marks : 100

Weightage of Marks : 80%

Special credit will be given for accuracy and relevance in the answer. Marks will be deducted for incorrect spelling, untidy work and illegible handwriting. The weightage for each question has been indicated in the margin.

SECTION – A

1. Answer any *two* of the following : $18 \times 2 = 36$
- Closely scrutinize the prologue to *Volpone* to explain Jonson's theme, purpose and art. Does he succeed in these aims ?
 - What is the major theme of *The Tempest* ? With what success has the theme been presented in terms of drama ?
 - Show how *The Rivals* mirrors aspects of eighteenth century society.
 - Is the title *Look Back in Anger* justified ? Discuss with close reference to the text.

SECTION – B

2. Answer any *three* of the following questions : $12 \times 3 = 36$
- Comment on the significance of the grave-digger scene in *Hamlet*.
 - The Importance of Being Earnest* is a mere farce with nothing else to its credit. Discuss.
 - Are the lengthy dialogues of *Man and Superman* undramatic ? Comment.
 - Sheridan's characters are two-dimensional. Assess Bob Acres and Sir Lucius O'Trigger in the light of this statement.
 - Closely analyse the 'Interlude' in *Murder in the Cathedral* to indicate its importance in the play.
 - Since nothing happens in *Waiting for Godot* — no progress in time or space, can it be defined as drama ? Evaluate.

SECTION – C

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

$$7 \times 4 = 28$$

- a) Compare and contrast the portrayals of Celia and Lady Would be in *Volpone*.
- b) What is the function of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern in *Hamlet* ?
- c) What purpose do song and music serve *The Tempest* ?
- d) Why is Lydia Languish, 'a lady of very singular taste' ? Discuss, with suitable illustrations.
- e) What light does the character of Octavius throw on Shaw's ideas on love and sex ?
- f) Is history modified at all in Eliot's play *Murder in the Cathedral* ?
- g) Do you think Lucky's dance and speech offer any meaning or is it merely inconsequential ?
- h) Jimmy mocks Alison for being "pusillanimous". Is his assessment correct ? Justify your point of view.

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