

2021

(March)

ENGLISH

(Major)

Course : 501

(Reading Drama)

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32/24

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer any *eight* of the following questions :

1×8=8

(a) Who out of these—George Etherege, William Wycherley, George Farquhar, John Lyly—is a 'University Wit'?

(b) Who wrote *The Duchess of Malfi*?

(c) Who was the chief exponent of the genre known as 'The Comedy of Humours'?

- (d) King Lear tells his age as "fourscore and upwards" : What is his age?
- (e) Who was the Duke of Burgundy in *King Lear*?
- (f) What was the French title of *Waiting for Godot* when it was performed in Paris?
- (g) Which play by Shaw that presented a new perspective on love and marriage is known today as a pro-feminist play?
- (h) What was the wedding present the Colonel gave to Eliza?
- (i) Where was Higgins' laboratory?
- (j) How many times did the Fool appear in the play, *King Lear* ?

2. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 12

- (a) Briefly trace the development of drama in England up to the 'University Wits'.
- (b) Write an illustrative note *either* on Jacobean drama *or* Restoration comedy.
- (c) Prepare a critical note on George Bernard Shaw as a playwright, who dealt with the social problems of his times.

3. Answer any one of the following questions : 12

- (a) "The scene is a kind of prologue which provides the basis on which the other scenes are built." Analyze the first scene of *King Lear* in the light of this remark.
- (b) How would you estimate the Fool in *King Lear* ?
- (c) Comment critically on the plot structure of *King Lear*.

4. Answer any one of the following questions : 12

- (a) Explore the human condition portrayed in *Waiting for Godot*.
- (b) Briefly discuss the significance of Lucky's speech in *Waiting for Godot*. Comment on Beckett's use of repetition in the play. 6+6=12
- (c) What characteristic features of an absurd play do you find in *Waiting for Godot* ?

5. Answer any one of the following questions : 12

- (a) Critically analyze the character of Eliza in the play, *Pygmalion*.
- (b) Comment critically on the use of the Pygmalion legend in the eponymous play by George Bernard Shaw.

(c) Discuss *Pygmalion* as a typical play of Shaw.

6. Answer any four of the following questions :

6×4=24

(a) Critically assess the Edgar-Edmund relationship in *King Lear*.

(b) Present a brief character sketch of Freddy's sister Clara.

(c) What do you think is the reason behind Higgins' indifference to young women in *Pygmalion* ?

(d) Write a note on 'Cockney' and its implications in *Pygmalion*.

(e) Write a note on the character of Cordelia from your reading of *King Lear*.

(f) Who do you think is Godot in the play, *Waiting for Godot* ?

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