

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN  
ENGLISH**

22971

**Term-End Examination**

**December, 2019**

**MEG-2 : BRITISH DRAMA**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 100*

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**Note :** Answer question no. 1, which is **compulsory** and attempt any **four** from the remaining questions. All questions carry equal marks.

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1. Critically comment on any **four** of the following passages, with reference to the context, in about 150 words each :

*4×5=20*

- (a) O that this too, too solid flesh would melt,  
Thaw, and resolve itself into a dew,  
Or that the Everlasting had not fix'd  
His canon 'gainst self-slaughter !
- (b) I shall make a duchess of this  
draggel-tailed guttersnipe.

- (c) Now, Faustus, must thou needs be damn'd ?  
 Canst thou not be sav'd ?  
 Despair in God, and trust in Beelzebub.  
 Now go not backward, Faustus; be resolute :  
 Why waverest thou ?
- (d) They know and do not know, what it is to  
 act or suffer.  
 They know and do not know, that action is  
 suffering  
 And suffering is action. Neither does the  
 actor suffer  
 Nor the patient act. But both are fixed ...
- (e) Will you believe antiquity ? Records ?  
 I'll shew you a book, where Moses and his  
 sister,  
 And Solomon have written of the art;  
 Ay, and a treatise penn'd by Adam —

2. Discuss the differences between Shakespearean comedy and Jonsonian comedy with reference to the prescribed plays in your course.

20

**OR**

Critically examine *Doctor Faustus* as a tragedy of human heroism.

3. Discuss the notions of martyrdom and temptation with reference to modern times in Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral*. 20

OR

Comment on the use of the play within the play in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

4. Discuss the significance of Hamlet's soliloquies with reference to the soul-searching he undergoes. 20

OR

*The Playboy of the Western World* illustrates the changed concept of comedy in the modern world. Discuss.

5. *Pygmalion* examines class and gender difference in a comic perspective. Critically comment. 20

OR

Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* presents before us the existentialist crisis of modern man. Comment.

6. Critically examine the concept of the angry young man with reference to the character of Jimmy in *Look Back in Anger*. 20

**OR**

Examine the concept of tragic flaw with reference to Elizabethan tragedy.

7. Write short notes on any **two** of the following in about 200 words each : 2×10=20
- (a) Laertes-Hamlet Clash
  - (b) Renaissance Comedy
  - (c) Class Conflict in Shaw's Drama
  - (d) Poetic Drama
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