

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH (MEG)**

Term-End Examination

February, 2021

MEG-2 : BRITISH DRAMA

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

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

1. Critically comment on any **four** of the following passages with reference to the context, in not more than 150 words each : 4×5=20

(a) O that this too, too sullied flesh would melt,
Thaw, and resolve itself into a dew !
Or that the Everlasting had not fix'd
His canon 'gainst self-slaughter ! O God !
O God !

(b) When I behold the heavens, then I repent,
And curse thee, wicked Mephistophilis,
Because thou hast depriv'd me of those joys.

- (c) There aren't any good, brave causes left. If the big bang does come, and we all get killed off, it won't be in aid of the old-fashioned, grand design. It'll just be for the Brave New-nothing-very-much-thank-you.
- (d) Now is my way clear, now is the meaning
plain :
Temptation shall not come in this kind again.
The last temptation is the greatest treason :
To do the right deed for the wrong reason.
- (e) Women upset everything. When you let them into your life, you find that the woman is driving at one thing and you're driving at another.

2. Discuss Ben Jonson's *The Alchemist* as a Comedy of Humours. 20

OR

Examine *Doctor Faustus* as a study of conflict with reference to the Christian faith.

3. Examine the role of the chorus in *Murder in the Cathedral*. 20

OR

What is the link between the main plot and the Mechanicals' play in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* ? Explain.

4. Comment on the nature and significance of the theme of revenge in *Hamlet*. How do the various characters in the play respond to the issue of revenge ? 20

OR

The Playboy of the Western World depicts the evolution of the hero. Elaborate.

5. Beckett rejects the conventional structure of a play to depict the absurd predicament in *Waiting for Godot*. Discuss. 20

OR

Comment on the elements of romance and comedy in *Pygmalion* by Shaw.

6. *Look Back in Anger* presents the conflicts of post-war youth. Critically comment. 20

OR

Trace the rise of Elizabethan tragedy and comedy from conventions available to Renaissance dramatists.

7. Write short notes on any **two** of the following in about 200 words each : $2 \times 10 = 20$

- (a) Bottom and the Working Class
 - (b) Thomas Becket as a Martyr
 - (c) Existentialist Theatre
 - (d) The Play-Within-the-Play
-