

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME
IN ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

MEG-02 : BRITISH DRAMA

Time : 3 Hours

[Maximum : Marks : 100

Note: Answer question no. 1 which is compulsory.
Answer 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) 'Tis now the very witching time of night,

When churchyards yawn and hell

Itself breathes out contagion to this world.

Now could I drink hot blood, and do

Such bitter business as the bitter day

Would quake to look on



(b) Now, Faustus, must

Thou needs be damned and canst thou not
be saved

..... Despair in God, and trust in Belzebub:

Now go not backward : no, Faustus be
resolute.

(c) One day, when I'm not longer spending my
days running a sweet-stall, I may write a book
about us all It'll be recollected in fire and
blood. My blood.

(d) We have only to conquer

Now, by suffering. This is the easier victory.

Now is the triumph of the cross.

(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. *The Alchemist* is a satire on human follies and
foibles. Discuss. 20

OR

Examine *Doctor Faustus* as a tragedy of the
aspirational Renaissance man.

3. Comment on the nature of the four temptations that Beckett confronts.

OR

The Mechanicals' play is inextricably related to the main plot of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Illustrate.

4. How do Hamlet's soliloquies contribute to the play? 20

OR

Discuss *The Playboy of the Western World* as an extravagant comedy.

5. Critically comment on the verbal comedy in *Pygmalion*.

OR

Discuss the salient features of Elizabethan tragedy with examples.

6. How do the characters in *Look Back in Anger* function as sites for a discussion of class and gender issues?

OR

Discuss *Waiting for Godot* as an Absurd play.

7. Write short notes on any two of the following in about 200 words each. 2×10=20

- (a) Religious beginning of Elizabethan drama
- (b) The theatre of the Absurd
- (c) The element of fantasy in A Mid Summer's Night Dream.
- (d) Characterization in the comedy of Humours.

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