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MEG-2

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN  
ENGLISH**

**Term-End Examination**

**June, 2019**

08435

**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) To be, or not to be : That is the question —  
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer  
The slings and arrows of outrageous  
fortune,  
Or to take up arms against a sea of  
troubles,  
And, by opposing, end them ? To die, to  
sleep —  
No more ...

- (b) But you have no idea how frightfully interesting it is to take a human being and change her into a quite different human being by creating a new speech for her. It's filling up the deepest gulf that separates class from class and soul from soul.
- (c) Hell hath no limits, nor is circumscribed  
In one self-place; for where we are is hell,  
And where hell is, there must we ever be :
- (d) Have you not done tormenting me with your accursed time ! ... One day, is that not enough for you, one day he went dumb ... one day we are born, one day we shall die, the same day, the same second ...
- (e) If we shadows have offended,  
Think but this, and all is mended,  
That you have but slumbered here  
While these visions did appear.  
And this weak and idle theme,  
No more yielding but a dream,  
Gentles, do not reprehend;  
If you pardon, we will mend :

2. Ben Jonson's *The Alchemist* attempts to capture the spirit of his age. Comment. 20

OR

Discuss *Dr. Faustus* as a tragedy. *Chorist*  
*Chorist*

3. Examine critically the idea of martyrdom in Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral*. 20

OR

"Celebrating love within the institution of marriage." Is it an apt description of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*? Discuss.

4. Discuss *Hamlet* as a revenge play. 20

OR

"*The Playboy of the Western World* is a play about rebellion. Comment.

5. Critically comment on the character of Eliza in *Pygmalion*. 20

OR

Discuss *Waiting for Godot* as a play that presents the existentialist crisis of modern man.

6. Gender and class conflict are central to *Look Back in Anger*. Discuss. 20

**OR**

Elizabethan tragedy focuses on character, not circumstance. Comment.

7. Write short notes on any *two* of the following in not more than 200 words each :  $2 \times 10 = 20$

- (a) The Split Personality of Doctor Faustus
  - (b) Experimentation in Modern Drama
  - (c) The Theatre of the Absurd
  - (d) Comic Spirit in Modern Drama
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