

2009

ENGLISH

PAPER—1201

Full Marks : 50

Time : 2 hours

Answer **all** questions

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable

1. Answer any *one* of the following (within 300 words) : 10×1
- (a) Comment on the significance of the title of *A Doll's House*.
- (b) Critically evaluate the character of Nora in Ibsen's *A Doll's House* in the light of the emerging feminist ideas.

(c) How does Shaw define Heaven and Hell in *Man and Superman*? Would you consider Tanner a 'heavenly' personality?

(d) How does Shaw dramatize the idea of Life Force in *Man and Superman*?

2. Answer any *one* of the following (within 300 words) : 10×1

(a) Critically examine Wilde's handling of the theme of dual identity in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

(b) Is *The Importance of Being Earnest* "a trivial comedy for serious people"? Give a reasoned answer.

(c) Examine the role of the Chorus in *Murder in the Cathedral*.

(d) Comment on the relevance of the Knights' speeches after the murder of Thomas Becket.

3. Answer any *one* of the following (within 300 words) : 10 x 1

(a) Write a note on Pinter's use of language in *The Birthday Party*.

(b) *The Birthday Party* centres on a non-conformist individual's search for security. Do you agree? Substantiate your answer.

(c) Critically assess the pronouncements made on 'life' and 'death' in Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*.

(d) Comment on the theme of identity and existence in Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*.

4. Comment on any *two* of the following (within 100 words) : 5 x 2

(a) (i) "I mean that I was simply transferred from father's hands into yours. You arranged everything according to your own taste, and so I got the same tastes as you—"

(ii) Ramsden as a foil to Tanner in 'Man and Superman'.

- (b) (i) The pun in the title of Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*.
- (ii) Significance of The Interlude in *Murder in the Cathedral*.
- (c) (i) The breaking of Stanley's glasses in *The Birthday Party*.
- (ii) "All right! We don't question. We don't doubt. We perform."

[*Internal Assessment*— 10 Marks]
