

M.A. 2nd Semester Examination 2013

ENGLISH

PAPER – 201

Full Marks : 40

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
- (a) Examine Ibsen's use of images, symbols and motifs to bring out the major themes in *A Doll's House*.
- (b) Show how Ibsen develops the dual nature of Nora's character in *A Doll's House*.

(Turn Over)

(c) Consider the Third Act of *Man and Superman* as the "centre of intellectual whirlpool" in the play.

(d) Analyse and comment on Shaw's idea of superman.

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

(a) Would you describe *The Importance of Being Earnest* as a 'nonsense' play? Justify your answer.

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

(c) Examine *Murder in the Cathedral* as a "particular image of a perpetual situation".

(d) Write a note on the role of the chorus in *Murder in the Cathedral*.

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

(a) Examine *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* as a comedy.

- (b) Write a note on Stoppard's 'talent for pastiche' with reference to *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*.
- (c) Would you like to regard *The Birthday Party* as a 'social allegory'? Justify your answer.
- (d) Comment on the significance of the title of *The Birthday Party*.
4. Comment on any two of the following (within 100 words): 5 × 2
- (a) (i) The dramatic significance of the opening stage direction in *A Doll's House*.

Or

- (ii) The description of Ann as a boa-constrictor.
- (b) (i) The character of Miss Prism.

Or

- (ii) The 'wheel' image in *Murder in the Cathedral*.

(c) (i) Role of Lulu in *The Birthday Party*.

Or

(ii) Emasculation of Stanley in *The Birthday Party*.