

2012

M.A. Part-I Examination

ENGLISH

PAPER—I

Full Marks : 100

Time : 4 Hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

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

Illustrate the answers wherever necessary.

Answer all questions.

1. (a) Assess the contribution of either Maurice Morgann or Coleridge to Shakespeare criticism. 16

Or

- (b) Write brief notes on the following :

(i) The Globe Theatre ;

(ii) The Boy-actors.

Or

- (c) Write a short essay on the role of the supernatural in Shakespeare's tragedies.

2. Answer any two of the following : 16x2

- (a) (i) Would you think that the ending of *King Lear* is unnecessarily cruel? Give reasons for your answer.

Or

(ii) Examine the role of the Fool in *King Lear*.

- (b) (i) Show how the problem of justice is explored in *Measure for Measure*.

Or

(ii) What is your impression about the Duke in *Measure for Measure*? Discuss.

- (c) (i) Examine Prospero's role as a teacher, in *The Tempest*.

Or

(ii) Examine the thematic relevance of the Caliban-Stephero-Trinculo underplot in *The Tempest*.

3. Answer any one of the following : 16

- (a) Bring out the importance of the role of Theseus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.
- (b) Discuss the characters of Hotspur and Prince Hal as studies in contrast.
- (c) Comment on Hamlet's treatment of Ophelia in the Nunnery scene.

4. Would you regard the Shakespearean sonnets as authentic statements of personal emotions? Discuss with reference to the poems you have read. 16

Or

Analyse any one Shakespearean sonnet to show how the poems meaning is conveyed through imagery.

5. Explain with reference to the context any one of the following : 10

(a) You do me wrong to take me out o'th' grave.
Thou art a soul in bliss, but I am bound,
Upon a wheel of fire, that mine own tears
Do scold like molten lead.

(b) ... I had rather my brother die by the law
Than my son should be unlawfully born.

(c) Two loves I have of comfort and despair,
Which like two spirits do suggest me still :
The better angel is a man right fair,
The worser spirit a woman coloured ill.

(d) Both, both, my girl :
By foul play, as thou say'st, were we heav'd there,
But blessedly help hither.

6. Comment on any two of the following : 5x2

- (a) The blindings of Gloucester ;
 - (b) Isabella as the Duke's bride ;
 - (c) The opening scene of *The Tempest* ;
 - (d) The image of the 'bare, ruined choirs' in Sonnet 73.
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