

MAEG 1002

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, JUNE 2015.

First Year — Non-Semester

English

BRITISH DRAMA

Time : Three hours Maximum : 100 marks

PART A — ($5 \times 8 = 40$ marks)

Any FIVE out of Eight Questions.

1. What is the view of human society in King Lear?
What are the conflicting principles of human nature? The causes, destructive and conservative, of the prodigious upheaval in the play?
2. What constitutes a "tragic flaw" according to Sophocles. What images and metaphors does he use to project this in his Oedipus Rex?
3. Ibsen's Use of Drama as a Forum for Social Issues in his A Doll's House — Illustrate.
4. Describe how Faustus surrendered his soul to the devil.

5. How Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard* fuses both a high level of psychological realism with a detailed Symbolism?
6. How is *Pygmalion* a problem play?
7. Explain how the play *Murder in the Cathedral* expresses and explores the conflict between "action" and "suffering."
8. What do you think is the most effective way that Samuel Beckett presents the repetition in *Waiting for Godot*?

PART B — (5 × 12 = 60 marks)

Any FIVE out of Eight Questions.

9. What is your opinion of the condition of Lear's mind in the opening scene? What effect does his increasing passion seem to have upon his faculties? Discuss the character of the king.
10. Explain the motivation of Oedipus blinding himself and the symbolism.
11. Compare Torvald's and Nora's attitudes toward money in *A Doll's House*.
12. Discuss 'Doctor Faustus' as amorality play.
13. Write an essay on the theme of the play *Pygmalion*.

14. In what ways is the play *Murder in the Cathedral* pessimistic? In what ways is it optimistic?
15. Explain in detail the theme of "uncertainty" in Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*.
16. Write a note on the themes of anger and frustration in Osborne's *Look Back in Anger*.