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Name.....

Reg. No.....

FIRST SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2015

(CUCSS)

English

EN 1E 02—BRITISH AND CONTINENTAL DRAMA

(2012 Admission onwards)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 36 Weightage

I. Answer *all* the following questions in a word, phrase or sentence :—

- 1 Rhinoceros belongs to the dramatic genre _____.
- 2 Name the noted Russian director who produced *The Cherry Orchard* for the first time.
- 3 Augusto Strindberg hails from _____.
- 4 What was the oracle brought by Creon ?
- 5 Women of which countries were assembled at Athens in *Lysistrata* ?
- 6 Who is the author of *Shakespearean Tragedy* ?
- 7 How does Mr. Helmer describe Nora's economic management ?
- 8 Mention three playwrights in the genre of theatre of the absurd.

(8 × ½ = 4 weightage)

II. Answer any *six* of the following questions in a paragraph each :—

- 9 Theatre of the Absurd.
- 10 Anti-Aristotelian drama.
- 11 Major symbols present in *A Doll's House*.
- 12 The Old Men and Old Women of Athens.
- 13 Jocasta, the mother and wife in *Oedipus Rex*.
- 14 Regan in *King Lear*.
- 15 Metaphoric importance of the four deans in *A Dream Play*.
- 16 Naturalism in theatre.
- 17 The brothel in *The Balcony*.
- 18 Universal significance of *Rhinoceros*.

(6 × 2 = 12 weightage)

Turn over

III. Write essays on any *four* of the following questions, choosing *one* from each section :

Section A

- 19 There is an unmistakable indication in the text of Sophocles' tragedy itself that the legend of Oedipus sprang from some primeval dream-material which had as its content the distressing disturbance of a child's relation to his parents owing to the first stirrings of sexuality. Discuss.
- 20 Though written in the classical times, Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* is highly relevant in the contemporary times too. Explain.
- 21 What do you think the major socio-political questions posed by William Shakespeare's tragic classic *King Lear* ?

Section B

- 22 The important struggle is Nora's search for herself. This search for identity remains a motivating force in *A Doll's House*.
- 23 Augusto Strindberg's *A Dream Play* is a perfect example of the adaptation of the Surrealist philosophy in theatre. Discuss.
- 24 Interface between the degenerating aristocracy and the emerging bourgeoisie is the point of tension in Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*. Substantiate.

Section C

- 25 How do you think the establishment reacts, in *The Balcony*, to revolutionary tendencies in the society ?
- 26 Bertolt Brecht too manipulates his medium in order to convey a particular picture of the world. Explain with specific reference to *Mother Courage and Her Children*.
- 27 Is Ionesco's play *Rhinoceros* a political parable ? Explain with illustrative examples from the play.

Section D

- 28 What do you think the classical Greek dramatic conventions ? Illustrate with examples drawn from prescribed texts.
- 29 Socio political questions from the centre of discussion in most of the modern dramatic texts. Do you agree ?