

D 13390

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Name.....

Reg. No.....

FIRST SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2016

(CUCSS)

English

EN 1E 02—BRITISH AND CONTINENTAL DRAMA

(2012 Admissions)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 36 Weightage

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

- 1 Why does Anya [*The Cherry Orchard*] go to Paris in ?
- 2 Name the theatre commune founded by Bertolt Brecht.
- 3 How does Jocasta end her life ?
- 4 *Lysistrata* features the assembly of women from two states. Which are these two states ?
- 5 When was the Second Folio of Shakespeare's plays published ?
- 6 How will you describe Nora's economic behaviour ?
- 7 To which country Augusto Strindberg belong to ?
- 8 Name three absurdist playwrights.

(8 × ½ = 4 weightage)

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

- 9 Pillars of society in Genet's *The Balcony*.
- 10 What do the four deans suggest in *A Dream Play* ?
- 11 The Old Men and the Old Women in *Lysistrata*.
- 12 Characterisation of Tieresias in *Oedipus Rex*.
- 13 Cordelia in *King Lear*.
- 14 What are the major symbols used in *A Doll's House*.
- 15 Expressionism in theatre.
- 16 Epic theatre.
- 17 Critique of materialist life in *The Cherry Orchard*.
- 18 Theatre of the Absurd.

(6 × 2 = 12 weightage)

Turn over

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

Section A

- 19 What do you think are the major points of dramatic conflict in Aristophanes' classical comedy *Lysistrata*?
- 20 Describe the beginning Act in William Shakespeare's tragic drama *King Lear* bringing out its salient features.
- 21 While the poet, while he unravels the past, begins to light the guilt of Oedipus, he is at the same time compelling us to recognize our inner minds in which those same impulses, though suppressed, are still to be found. Explain.

Section B

- 22 What are the experimental realms on which Augusto Strindberg's *A Dream Play* operates ?
- 23 Some question the plausibility on Nora's sudden rejection of that almost, inherited and well-trained and well-drilled morality and her rebirth as a rebel. Argue against this statement.
- 24 Attempt a class-oriented criticism of Anton Chekhov's classic play *The Cherry Orchard*.

Section C

- 25 In a world where everyone is obsessed with the status quo, revolutions becomes an impossibility. Substantiate this statement in the context of *The Balcony*.
- 26 Brecht used alienation precisely in order to reduce to a minimum the subjectivity inherent in the dramatic medium and to assimilate it as nearly as possible to the objectivity of the epic. Discuss this statement with special focus on *Mother Courage and Her Children*.
- 27 What do you think is the political subtext of Eugene Ionesco's modern dramatic classic *Rhinoceros* ?

Section D

- 28 Gender discourse forms one of the main mooring points of modern drama. Discuss this statement focusing on some of the main women characters in modern drama.
- 29 What do you think are the major points of convergence between Classical Greek Tragedy and Classical Greek Comedy ?
- 30 Discuss some of the experimental features of modern dramatic tradition. Explain with examples from prescribed texts.

(4 × 5 = 20 weightage)