

D 33491

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Name.....

Reg. No.....

**FIRST SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION
FEBRUARY 2013**

(CUCSS)

English

Paper III – Optional Group A – EN IE 02 – BRITISH CONTINENTAL DRAMA

(2010 Admissions)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 36 Weightage

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

1. Who is Gloucester's illegitimate son?
2. What is the excuse Regan and Cornwall give for not speaking with Lear after Lear learns about what they did to Kent?
3. Why is Lear angry when Cordelia refuses to flatter him during the love test?
4. What is the final fate of Goneril and Regan?

(4 × ½ = 2 weightage)

5. What does Dr. Rank reveal to Nora about himself in Act III?
6. What does Nora say to Mrs. Linde about the cause of Dr. Rank's illness?
7. How does Krogstad plan to blackmail Torvald?
8. In Act I, how does Nora try to convince Mrs. Linde that Torvald and Nora had to work very hard to fund the life they have?

(4 × ½ = 2 weightage)

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

9. Discuss Lysistrata's inspection of Spartan women in the beginning of the play.
10. Surrealism in *A Dream Play*.
11. Symbolism in *The Cherry Orchard*.
12. Explain the idea of war as business in *Mother Courage*.
13. Illusion and Reality in *The Balcony*.

Turn over

14. The workplace in Ionesco.
15. Discuss how fate and free will have been negotiated by Sophocles.
16. Comment on some of the motifs in *Oedipus Rex*.
17. What role do women play in *King Lear*?
18. Letters as subtext in *A Doll's House*.

(6 × 2 = 12 weightage)

III. Write essays on any *four*, choosing *one* from each section :

Section A

19. Analyse the relationship between madness and blindness in *King Lear*.
20. Discuss Oedipus as a perfect tragic hero of Greek plays.
21. Comment on the way *Lysistrata* examines the question of gender and power.

Section B

22. Do you agree with the argument that the main characters in *A Doll's House* pretend to be someone who others would like them to be, instead of being their true selves? Elaborate.
23. Discuss the dramatic techniques employed by Strindberg in *A Dream Play*.
24. How does *The Cherry Orchard* give a glimpse of the cultural conflict experienced by the early twentieth century Russian middle class?

Section C

25. Comment on the art of alienation of Brecht's work.
26. Elaborate on Genet's use of satire in *The Balcony*.
27. Delineate the progression of violence in *Rhinoceros*.

Section D

28. Attempt a comparative analysis of Greek and Shakespeare tragedies.
29. Discuss how ancient and modern European drama exploits the female as a source of power.
30. Elaborate on the use of violence and capitalism in modern European plays.

(4 × 5 = 20 weightage)