

**FIRST SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2018**

(CUCSS—PG)

English Optional

EN 1E 02—BRITISH AND CONTINENTAL DRAMA

(2012 Syllabus Year)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 36 Weightage

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

1. How does *The Cherry Orchard* become a metaphor in Chekhov's play ?
2. What do you know about the time period in *Mother Courage and Her Children* ?
3. Who is Reconciliation in *Lysistrata* ?
4. Who is the proponent of Existentialism ?
5. Who among the two friends in *Rhinoceros* is an intellectual ?
6. Mention the time period in which the events in *A Doll's House* take place.
7. Describe the Attorney in *A Dream Play*.
8. How does Regan describe her love to her father ?

(8 × ½ = 4 weightage)

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

9. Yvette Pottier in *Mother Courage and Her Children*.
10. Theatre of the absurd.
11. The role of Jocasta in *Oedipus Rex*.
12. Cordelia in *King Lear*.
13. What was the story told to Oedipus about the death of Laius ?
14. The Old Women in *Lysistrata*.
15. *A Dream Play* as a fantasy.
16. Description of the crumbling aristocracy in *The Cherry Orchard*.
17. Conformity and resistance in *Rhinoceros*.
18. Torvald Helmer Vs Kogstad.

(6 × 2 = 12 weightage)

**Turn over**

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

**Section A**

19. At all stages in the life of Oedipus ascendancy and fall occur simultaneously. Substantiate this statement.
20. In what ways do parental prejudice and filial deception contribute to the tragedy of *King Lear* ?
21. Appreciate Aristophanes' classic Greek play *Lysistrata* as a powerful anti-war narrative.

**Section B**

22. In what sense Anton Chekhov's play *The Cherry Orchard* become a credible document on social change ?
23. What do you think are the main social issues taken up by Strindberg for dramatic narrative in *A Dream Play* ?
24. Explain how Henrik Ibsen builds up a powerful critique of patriarchal society in his play *A Doll's House*.

**Section C**

25. Write an essay on the device of meta-theatricality as adopted in Jean Genet's *The Balcony*.
26. Refusal to budge to totalitarian regimes and power structures is the core theme of *Rhinoceros*. Discuss.
27. How would you interpret Bertolt Brecht's *Mother Courage and Her Children* as play on fascism and totalitarianism ?

**Section D**

28. Which are the different kinds of movements as far as modern drama is concerned ? Provide illustrative examples.
29. What do you think are the characteristic features of classical Greek drama ? Answer this question taking examples from texts prescribed.
30. Attempt a comparative study of any two women characters taken from the prescribed play texts.

(4 × 5 = 20 weightage)