

2019

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 5.1

(Modern Drama—I)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

SECTION—I

1. Answer any *three* of the following as directed : 1×3=3

(a) Who undertook the most radical attempt to endow the theatre with an instructive character?

(b) What seemed to be quite empty and discreditable to Diderot?

(2)

(c) _____ has revealed to us a physical and non-verbal idea of the theatre.

(Fill in the blank)

(d) What is everything for Occidental Theatre?

2. Answer any *two* of the following as directed :

2×2=4

(a) What are the two tendencies Artaud associates with Oriental Theatre and Occidental Theatre respectively?

(b) It must be said that the domain of the theatre is not _____ but _____.

(Fill in the blanks)

(c) What are the two courses of experiment referred to by Brecht?

(d) For Piscator the theatre was a _____, the public a _____.

(Fill in the blanks)

(3)

3. Write a short note on any *one* of the following :

5

(a) The language of mise-en-scene as the pure theatrical language

(b) Brecht's idea of 'distancing'

4. Answer any *one* of the following :

10

(a) Comment on Brecht's analysis of the experimental forays in modern theatre with reference to the works of Erwin Piscator.

Or

Discuss Brecht's essay, *On Experimental Theatre* as a critique of the Aristotelian method.

(b) How, according to Artaud, can Oriental Theatre offer an alternative and facilitate a new theatrical idiom?

Or

"Oriental Theatre does not deal with the external aspects of things on a single level." Explain the significance of this statement by Artaud.

(4)

SECTION—II

5. Answer any *four* of the following as directed :
1×4=4

- (a) When does the action of *Arms and the Man* take place?
- (b) What was the original title of Shaw's play, *Arms and the Man*?
- (c) The first scene of *Galileo* takes place in _____.
(Fill in the blank)
- (d) Who utters the concluding words of the play, *Galileo*?
- (e) Who is referred to as 'twenty-two troubles' in *The Cherry Orchard*?
- (f) Write the name of Lyubov's maid.

(5)

6. Answer any *two* of the following as directed :
2×2=4

- (a) "It's Varya again! (Angrily.) It's revolting!"
Who says this and when?
- (b) Dunyasha enters with a _____, and Lopakhin is holding a _____.
(Fill in the blanks)
- (c) When and where does Scene-1 of *Galileo* open?
- (d) "Yes, a pretty _____. Where I saw it first it was covered in _____."
(Fill in the blanks)
- (e) "I sent her away. I wanted to be alone."
Who says this and to whom?
- (f) "Next time I hope you will know the difference between a schoolgirl of _____ and a woman of _____."
(Fill in the blanks)

(6)

7. Answer any *two* of the following questions :

5×2=10

(a) Write a short note on Ludovico Marsili or Andrea.

(b) "Outside it's October, but it's as sunny and as quiet as summer. Good for building. (Looking at his watch, at the door.) Ladies and gentlemen, keep in mind that the train leaves in just forty-six minutes!" Explain.

Or

Write a short note on Varya.

(c) Write a short note on Louka.

Or

"Do you think I believe that she—she! whose worst thoughts are higher than your best ones, is capable of trifling with another man behind my back?" Explain.

8. Answer any *two* of the following questions :

10×2=20

(a) Discuss the significance of the title of Shaw's play, *Arms and the Man*.

Or

Write an essay on George Bernard Shaw as a playwright with reference to *Arms and the Man*.

(7)

(b) Discuss *The Cherry Orchard* as a play on social realism.

Or

Make an evaluation of Lopakhin's character in *The Cherry Orchard*.

(c) Write an essay on *Galileo* as a Brechtian play.

Or

"The play is a tragi-comedy of heroic combat followed by unheroic capitulation." Examine the validity of this statement with reference to the play, *Galileo*.

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ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 5.2

(Modern Drama—II)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

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for the questions*

SECTION—I

1. Answer any *three* of the following as directed : 1×3=3

(a) According to Sartre, _____ comes before essence.

(Fill in the blank)

(b) In which book did Camus diagnose “the human situation in a world of shattered beliefs”?

(c) *The Inside of His Head* was the first title of a play by Miller. Name the play.

(d) _____, a play by Miller focuses on the failure called *The Man Who Had All the Luck*.

(Fill in the blank)

2. Answer briefly any *three* of the following :

2×3=6

- (a) Why did Herbert Blau decide to stage *Waiting for Godot* for the San Quentin audience?
- (b) How did the Theatre of the Absurd differ from the Existentialist Theatre?
- (c) Why, according to Miller, was *Death of a Salesman* considered to be a pseudo-tragedy?
- (d) List two influences which, according to Miller, create the style of a play.

3. Why does Miller say that the dramatic form is a dynamic thing?

5

Or

What kind of critical reception did the first staging of *Waiting for Godot* at San Quentin receive?

4. "They can be judged only by the standards of the Theatre of the Absurd." What are the standards of the Theatre of the Absurd?

10

Or

"There is always an organic connection rather than a temperamental choice involved in the style in which a play is written and must be performed." (Miller)

Discuss with reference to Miller's 'Introduction' to the *Collected Plays*.

SECTION—II

5. Answer the following :

1×4=4

- (a) What does the Chorus say about the role it has to perform in the action of *Murder in the Cathedral*?
- (b) What difference is there in the willow tree between Act I and Act II in *Waiting for Godot*?
- (c) By what name does the boy address Vladimir?
- (d) What does Willy give the woman with whom he had an affair?

6. Attempt a character sketch of the Fourth Tempter in the play, *Murder in the Cathedral*.

2

Or

What causes the rift between Biff and Willy Loman?

7. Explain the following with reference to the context :

5+5=10

- (a) "All right, boy. I'm gonna show you and everybody else that Willy Loman did not die in vain. He had a good dream. It's the only dream you can have ..."

Or

"You can't eat the orange and throw the peel away—a man is not a piece of fruit."

- (b) "Nothing happens. Nobody comes, nobody goes. Its awful."

Or

"He'll know nothing. He'll tell me about the blows he received and I'll give him a carrot."

8. Answer any *two* of the following : 10×2=20

- (a) Explain how the play *Murder in the Cathedral* explores the conflict between 'action' and 'suffering'.

Or

Write an essay on Eliot's use of Greek tragedy in shaping his play, *Murder in the Cathedral*.

- (b) Draw a character sketch of Willy Loman as a symbol of the failing American dream.

Or

Describe the significance of the title of the play, *Death of a Salesman*.

- (c) Write an essay on the meaning of human life as depicted by Samuel Beckett in *Waiting for Godot*.

Or

In what way do Lucky and Pozzo contribute to the thematic structure of the play, *Waiting for Godot*? Discuss.

Or

Discuss *Waiting for Godot* as a nihilistic play.

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(Major)

Paper : 5.3

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. Answer any *three* of the following questions :

10×3=30

- (a) What, according to Addison, was the aim of the spectator? How far has that aim been fulfilled in the essay, *The Aims of the Spectator*?

Or

Explain how the essays of 'The Spectator' and 'The Tatler' reflect the sensibilities of a rising middle class in the early decades of the 18th century.

- (b) Write an illustrative note on the members of 'The Spectator Club' as depicted by Steele.

Or

Assess the occupations and positions of Sir Roger de Coverley, Sir Andrew Freeport and Captain Sentry in society. Discuss their values and interests from your reading of *The Spectator Club*.

- (c) Write a note on the personal essay with special reference to Charles Lamb's *The Praise of Chimney Sweepers*.

Or

Bring out the salient features of Hazlitt's prose style with special reference to the essay, *On Going a Journey*.

- (d) Present a portrait of American people as depicted by Dickens in his essay, *Washington : The Legislature and the President's House*.

Or

Write a note on Dickens' criticism of certain habits and practices that he encountered in Washington.

2. Answer any *three* of the following questions :

5×3=15

- (a) Comment on Addison's plan to bring philosophy out of closets, libraries, schools and colleges and to make it available in clubs and coffee houses.

- (b) Write a note on Lamb's use of humour and pathos in his essays with reference to *The Chimney Sweepers*.

- (c) Write a note on Hazlitt's use of quotations in the essay, *On Going a Journey*.

- (d) Give an account of the capital and its vicinity as experienced by Dickens in America.

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

2×4=8

- (a) What is the attitude of Mr. Spectator towards the people and things he observes and describes?

- (b) How does Lamb compare the chimney sweepers of London with clergymen?

- (c) Write a note on Hazlitt's use of aphorisms in the essay, *On Going a Journey*.

- (d) Discuss the significance of the St. Bartholomew Fair in the essay, *The Chimney Sweepers*.

- (e) How does Dickens describe tobacco chewing by American gentlemen?

4. Answer the following questions very briefly
(any seven) : 1×7=7

- (a) How many 'disciples' does Addison think he has in London and Westminster?
- (b) The essay, *The Spectator Club* begins with the lines of a famous satirist. Who is he/she?
- (c) Whose maxim is "A penny saved is a penny got" in the essay, *The Spectator Club*?
- (d) What is the meaning of the 'fauces Avernii' as mentioned in Lamb's essay, *The Chimney Sweepers*?
- (e) "May the Brush supersede the Laurel!" Where does this line occur?
- (f) What, according to Hazlitt, is one of the pleasantest things in the world?
- (g) Whom does Hazlitt refer to as 'My Old Friend C' in *On Going a Journey*?
- (h) From which place did Dickens start his journey to Washington?
- (i) What was the earlier name by which the White House was known?

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ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 5.4

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. Answer the following as directed : 1×7=7
- (a) What does Trotskyism mean?
 - (b) Name the book from which Elwin's *A Pilgrimage to Tawang* is taken.
 - (c) "A communist, for my purpose here, is one who looks upon the USSR as his Fatherland and feels it his duty to justify Russian policy and advance Russian interests at costs." Where does this line occur?
 - (d) *A Room of One's Own* is written by ____.
(Fill in the blank)
 - (e) What does D. H. Lawrence mean by 'tremulations on ether'?

- (f) In which British magazine the essay, *Notes on Nationalism* was published?
- (g) What is patriotism?
2. Answer the following in brief : $2 \times 4 = 8$
- (a) What were the two occasions when Tawang came into the world news?
- (b) What is 'Zionism'?
- (c) How can the novel guide a man to live life fully?
- (d) What should be the goal of an essay according to Virginia Woolf?
3. Answer any one of the following : 5
- (a) How, according to D. H. Lawrence, is the Bible a great confused novel?
- (b) Discuss, in short, the notion of positive nationalism.
4. Explain the following passages with reference to the context : $5 \times 2 = 10$
- (a) "For this reason I am a novelist. And being a novelist, I consider myself superior to the saint, the scientist, the philosopher, and the poet, who are all great masters of different bits of man alive, but never get the whole hog."

- Or
- "There is no absolute good, there is nothing absolutely right. All things flow and change, and even change is not absolute."
- (b) "Nationalism is not to be confused with patriotism. Both words are normally used in so vague a way that any definition is liable to be challenged, but one must draw a distinction between them, since two different and even opposing ideas are involved."
- Or
- "The primary aim of propaganda is, of course, to influence contemporary opinion, but those who rewrite history do probably believe with part of their minds that they are actually thrusting facts into the past."
5. Answer any three of the following questions : $10 \times 3 = 30$
- (a) How does D. H. Lawrence in his essay, *Why the Novel Matters* highlight the superiority of the novel over other forms of literature?
- (b) Recount in your own words the various experiences of Verrier Elwin during his pilgrimage.

- (c) Write a note on the prose style of Lawrence as reflected in his essay, *Why the Novel Matters*.
- (d) What, according to Orwell, are the primary characteristics of nationalist thought? Elaborate.
- (e) What does Orwell mean by 'negative nationalism' and what is its impact upon the modern world?
- (f) Comment on Woolf's writing style with reference to her essay, *The Art of the Essay*.

2019

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 5.5

(Life Writing)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. Answer any *three* of the following questions :

10×3=30

- (a) "Samuel Johnson's *Life of Pope* is a balanced analysis of the character of the poet." Do you agree? Substantiate your argument with textual evidence.
- (b) How does Trollope chart his development as a novelist in the Sixth Chapter of his *Autobiography*, especially with reference to *Barchester Towers*? Illustrate your answer with relevant examples from the text.
- (c) Critically examine R. K. Narayan's use of the form of the autobiography in his memoirs, *My Days*.

(2)

- (d) What does Franz Kafka's *Letter to My Father* reveal about his relations with his father and the nature of Kafka's mind?
- (e) What impression do you form of Dickinson's personality from her letters?
- (f) How does Tagore foreground his love of India and strong patriotic fervour in the two letters prescribed for you?
- (g) Provide your views on the difficulties faced by Ashutosh Mukherjee as an educationist in the context of his letter to Lord Lytton.

2. Answer any *three* of the following questions :

5×3=15

- (a) Elaborate on R. K. Narayan's childhood as depicted in his *My Days*.
- (b) Discuss briefly Ashutosh Mukherjee's advocacy of the autonomy of a university.
- (c) Critically comment on Kafka's handling of the epistolary form from your reading of the prescribed text.
- (d) "Of his domestic character frugality was a part eminently remarkable." (*Life of Pope*) Comment.

(3)

- (e) Analyze Tagore's dilemma over Christ's words 'Love thine enemies' as expressed in his letter to Mahatma Gandhi.
- (f) Elaborate on the idea expressed in *The Three Clerks*.

3. Answer the following questions : 2×4=8

- (a) Write briefly about R. K. Narayan's description of his school in *My Days*.
- (b) Mamie is the youngest daughter of the Bowles family. Name the other two children of Bowles.
- (c) What are Johnson's views on Pope's *Essay on Criticism*?
- (d) Briefly comment on Kafka's relationship with Ottla from your reading of Kafka's *Letter to My Father*.

4. Answer the following as directed : 1×7=7

- (a) Who wrote *Ode on Solitude*?
- (b) When was R. K. Narayan's *My Days* published?
- (c) What is Ashutosh Mukherjee's 'Alma Mater'?

(d) Who was the Viceroy to whom Tagore wrote his letter renouncing Knighthood?

(e) Carlo is the name of Emily Dickinson's
_____.

(Fill in the blank)

(f) Who was Mrs. Samuel Bowles?

(g) What is Franzensbad as mentioned in Kafka's *Letter to My Father*?

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ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : 5.6

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. Answer the following questions : 1×7=7

- (a) In which two countries is Anita Desai's *Fasting, Feasting* situated?
- (b) Who is 'Ramu' in *Fasting, Feasting*?
- (c) Who is 'the Boss' in *The Fly*?
- (d) What is the connection between Mr. Slade and Mrs. Ansley?
- (e) Where does the story, *Heaven is not Closed* take place?
- (f) What does the act of knitting signify in *Roman Fever*?
- (g) What does the title, *Roman Fever* stand for?

2. Give short answers to the following (any four) :
2×4=8

- (a) Who is Mira Masi? Which idol is she obsessed with?
- (b) According to which tradition do Galethebege and Ralokae get married and why?
- (c) What is the metaphorical significance of the fly in Katherine Mansfield's story?
- (d) What is meant by 'sister authoresses'?
- (e) Comment on the title of Alice James's *Going Downhill*.

3. Answer any three of the following : 5×3=15

- (a) Briefly describe Mama Papa and Uma's visit to the park and Papa's activities there.
- (b) "I had Barbara." Comment briefly on this statement.
- (c) Explain the following with reference to the context :

You want me to be like you Papa
Or like Rani Lakshmbai,
You are not sure what greatness is
But you want me to be great.

(d) Critically comment on the following passage :

If you look up in time
You might see the Peacock,
Turning away as he gathers his tail.

4. Answer any three of the following questions :
10×3=30

- (a) Comment on the intricate family relationships as depicted by Anita Desai in her novel, *Fasting, Feasting*.

Or

Analyze the use of food as a major trope in *Fasting, Feasting*.

- (b) Critically examine the changing relationship between Alida Slade and Grace Ansley in *Roman Fever*.
- (c) Comment on the colonial impact on Africa from your reading of *Heaven is not Closed*.
- (d) Critically analyze the theme of Death and Mourning in Katherine Mansfield's *The Fly*.
- (e) Assess *Tribute to Papa* as a critique of patriarchy.
- (f) How do the writings of Fanny Burney and Helen Maria Williams reflect issues concerning women in English society during their times?
