

15P151

Name:

Reg. No.....

FIRST SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXTERNAL EXAMINATION
FEBRUARY 2016
(2015 Admission)

CC15P EN1 E02– British and Continental Drama
(English Language & Literature)

Time: 3 Hours

Weightage: 36

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

1. What does the black cross on Dr. Rank's calling card signify?
2. Whose signature did Nora forge?
3. What will be the benefit of Torvald's new job at the bank?
4. What does Nora expect Torvald to do when he learns about her forgery?
(4 x ½ = 2)
5. When was the play *King Lear* premiered?
6. Who was leading the army that landed at Dover?
7. On whose legend is Shakespeare's *King Lear* modelled?
8. Who other than Edgar disguises himself in *King Lear*?
(4 x ½ = 2)

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

9. Comment on the setting of the play *The Balcony*.
10. Expressionistic theatre in Europe.
11. Irony in *Oedipus Rex*.
12. How does Chekhov portray working class struggle in *The Cherry Orchard*?
13. Significance of the title *Rhinoceros*.
14. What role do women play in *King Lear*?
15. Narrate the historical context of Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*.
16. The role of Christine in *A Dream Play*.
17. Storm scene in *King Lear*.
18. What is the function of chorus in *Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles?
(6 x 2 = 12)

III. Answer any four of the following questions in about 450 words, choosing one from each section:

Section A

19. How do the ideas of blindness and sight correlate to the ideas of knowledge and ignorance in *Oedipus Rex*?
20. Identify *King Lear* as a typical Shakespearean tragedy.
21. Comment on the contemporary relevance of the play *Lysistrata*.

Section B

22. Locate *A Dream Play* as an expressionist play.
23. Compare the relationship between Mrs. Linde and Krogstad with that of Nora and Torvald.
24. Consider *The Cherry Orchard* as a play that symbolizes the growth of middle class and the fall of aristocracy in Russia.

Section C

25. Comment on the notion of 'agitation and propaganda' in *Mother Courage*.
26. The concept of 'play within a play' in *The Balcony*.
27. Trace the progression of damage and violence in *Rhinoceros* and the characters' reaction to it.

Section D

28. Write an essay on the women characters in Greek tragedy.
29. Compare and contrast the dramatic techniques in the works of Strindberg and Ibsen.
30. Attempt an essay on Absurd drama with reference to the plays prescribed.

(4 x 5 = 20)
