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Name.....

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Reg. No.....

**FIRST SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2014**

(CUCSS)

English

**EN IE 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 Augusto Strindberg is a ——— national.
- 2 Why was Nora forced to forge her father's signature ?
- 3 When was the First Folio of Shakespeare's plays published ?
- 4 At which place was King Laius killed ?
- 5 Who is the author of *The Three Penny Opera* ?
- 6 Who were the contenting parties in the Peloponnesian war ?
- 7 In *The Cherry Orchard* who is nick named as "Twenty Two Calamities" ?
- 8 What is common among Beckett, Genet and Adamov ?

(8 × ½ = 4 weightage)

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

- 9 Explain the suggestive value of the four deans in *A Dream Play* ?
- 10 *A Doll's House* as a play with high symbolism.
- 11 Characterisation of Creon.
- 12 The Old Men and the Old Women in *Lysistrata*.
- 13 Goneril in *King Lear*.
- 14 Surrealism in Theatre
- 15 Alienation effect.
- 16 Social classes in Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*.
- 17 Theatre of the absurd.
- 18 The illusory world in *The Balcony*.

(6 × 2 = 12 weightage)

Turn over



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

## SECTION A

- 19 Describe the final act in William Shakespeare's *King Lear* bringing out its salient feature
- 20 It is the fate of all of us, perhaps, to direct our first sexual impulse towards our mother and first murderous wish against our father.....Oedipus merely shows us the fulfillment of own childhood wishes. Discuss.
- 21 Initiatives by women to end disastrous practices by man can end in success. How do Aristophanes' *Lisistrata* fit into this statement?

## SECTION B

- 22 Fact and fantasy come together inseparably in Strindberg's *A Dream Play*. Offer critical comment
- 23 Nora Helmer's last definitive act in *A Doll's House*, the moment when she leaves her father slamming the door behind her, has been called by numerous critics the slam that reverberates around the world. Elucidate.
- 24 Discuss how Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard* becomes a historical account of social changes in Russia.

## SECTION C

- 25 Write a short note on the meta-theatrical characteristics of Jean Genet's play *The Balcony*
- 26 Bertolt Brecht's *Mother Courage and Her Children* is an anti-war classic of all times. Explain
- 27 Eugene Ionesco's *Rhinoceros* yields to many interpretations. Write an essay on some of the major interpretations of the play.

## SECTION D

- 28 Write an essay about the contributions of Classical Greek tragic dramatists with special reference to Sophocles.
- 29 What do you think are the major experimental features of modern drama? Explain how modern drama is different from the previous ones.
- 30 Discuss how the question of gender discrimination is dealt with by the modern dramatists

(4 × 5 = 20 weight)