

2016

M.A. Part-I Examination

ENGLISH

PAPER—I

Full Marks : 100

Time : 4 Hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

Illustrate the answers wherever necessary.

Answer all questions.

1. (a) Assess the contribution of either Dr. Johnson or A. C. Bradley to Shakespeare criticism. 16

Or

- (b) Write a brief note on the following :

Folios and Quartos ;

Or

- (c) Write a note on Elizabethan audience.

(Turn Over)

2. Answer any *two* of the following : 2×16

(a) (i) *King Lear* turns on generational conflicts.
Discuss.

Or

(ii) Discuss the role of Fool in *King Lear*.

(b) (i) Examine the exploration of the problem of justice in *Measure for Measure*.

Or

(ii) Give your assessment of the character of Isabella in *Measure for Measure*.

(c) (i) Comment on the structure of the plot in *The Tempest*.

Or

(ii) Discuss the dramatic significance of the opening scene of *The Tempest*.

3. Answer any *one* of the following : 16

(a) Examine the importance of the role of Theseus in *A Midsummer Nights' Dream*.

(b) Discuss Shakespeare's portrayal of Falstaff in the First part of *Henry IV*.

(c) Would you consider Hamlet a tragic hero? Argue in support of your answer.

4. Discuss Shakespeare's handling of the theme of mortality in his Sonnets. 16

Or

Choose any one of Shakespeare's sonnets for a close examination of its structure.

5. Explain with reference to the context any *one* of the following : 10

(a) My wits begin to turn.

Come on, my boy, How dost, any boy? Art cold?
I am cold myself. Where is this straw, my fellow?
The art of necessities is strange,
That can make vile things precious.

(b) Now good my lord,

Let there be some more test made of my metal
Before so noble and so great a figure
Be stamped upon it.

(c) O Setebos, these be brave spirits indeed!

How fine my master is! I am afraid
He will chastise me.

- (d) So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

6. Comment on any *two* of the following : 2×5

- (a) Lear's Knights.
- (b) Claudio's fear of death in *Measure for Measure*.
- (c) The role of the Stephans-Trinculo pair in the *Tempest*.
- (d) 'My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun.
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