

**M.A. 2nd Semester Examination, 2013**

**ENGLISH**

PAPER – 204

*Full Marks : 40*

*Time : 2 hours*

Answer all questions

*The figures in the right hand margin indicate marks*

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

1. Answer any *one* of the following (within 300 words) :
  - (a) Briefly discuss the practice of cross-dressing on the Elizabethan stage. 10
  - (b) Show how some of the features of Shakespeare's plays were determined by the physical conditions of the Elizabethan stage.

( Turn Over )

(c) Discuss Shakespeare's use of prose in his plays.

(d) Consider the contribution of either Coleridge or Pope as a Shakespearean critic.

2. Answer any *one* of the following (within 300 words) : 10

(a) How does Shakespeare critique the established Petrarchan conventions in his sonnets? Answer with reference to some of Shakespeare's sonnets that you have read.

(b) Show how Shakespeare's sonnets encompass several distinct points of view on love, unified by a series of observations on the power of poetry to record them.

(c) Discuss the theme of folly in *King Lear*.

(d) Bring out the significance of the storm-scenes in *King Lear*.

3. Answer any *one* of the following (within 300 words) : 10
- (a) Discuss *Measure for Measure* as a play that addresses issues of good government and personal morality.
  - (b) Critically analyse *Measure for Measure* as a traditional secular comedy whose themes have been drawn from prominent Christian texts.
  - (c) Examine Shakespeare's presentation of Prospero as a magician turned magus.
  - (d) How far is the subject of colonization relevant to *The Tempest* ?
4. Comment on any *two* of the following (each comment within 100 words) : 5 × 2
- (a) (i) Is this her fault or mine ?  
The tempter or the tempted, who sins most ? Ha ?
  - (ii) The 'bed trick' in *Measure for Measure*.

- (b) (i) These late eclipses in the sun and moon  
portend no good to us.
- (ii) O dear father,  
It is thy business that I go about.
- (c) (i) And for your sake  
Am I this patient log-man.
- (ii) That's a brave god, and bears celestial  
liquor.
- (d) (i) But if the while I think on thee  
(dear friend)  
All losses are restored, and sorrows  
end.
- (ii) Then of thy beauty do I question make  
That thou among the wastes of time  
must go,  
Since sweets and beauties do themselves  
forsake,  
And die as fast as they see others grow.
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