

QP CODE:
T5003

Enrollment number :

Name :

MA DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, MAY 2024

First Semester

MA English Language and Literature

M21EG02DC - Shakespeare Studies

(Supplementary / Improvement)

2022 ADMISSIONS

Time: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 70

Section A

Answer any five of the following questions in one or two sentences each. Each question carries 2 marks.

1. Write a short note on the question game in "*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*".
2. Very briefly explain how Stoppard's play is a tragicomedy.
3. What is the meaning of the Japanese word 'ran' and why is it suitable as a title for Akira Kurosawa's film?
4. Write a short note on the allusions to the Jewish initiation rite of circumcision in Howard Jacobson's "*Shylock is my Name*".
5. Write a note on the Fair Youth sonnets of Shakespeare.
6. Briefly outline Jonathan Dollimore's views on the historicity of texts.
7. Write a note on Valerie Traub's feminist critique of Shakespeare.
8. What was Dr. Samuel Johnson's opinion about the ending of Hamlet?

(2x5=10)

Section B

Answer any six of the following questions in half a page each. Each question carries 5 marks.

9. Write a note on the elements of the Absurd in "*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*".
10. "Both Jessica and Beatrice eloped with Christian lovers due to the overprotectiveness of their respective fathers." With reference to Howard Jacobson's "*Shylock is my Name*", outline the arguments for and against this statement.
11. What are the liberties that Howard Jacobson has taken with Shakespeare's "*The Merchant of Venice*"? Discuss.

12. Write a note on the role of violence in Ran.
13. Write a note on the structure of the Shakespearean plot.
14. With reference to the sonnets you have studied in this course, discuss the poetic device Volta in the sonnet form.
15. Write a short note on Shakespeare and Englishness.
16. Explain the term "Cultural Materialism" with one illustrative example.
17. Write a note on censorship in the Elizabethan age.
18. What did Dr. Johnson see as the merits of Shakespeare's plays? (5x6=30)

Section C

Answer any two of the following questions in four pages each. Each question carries 15 marks.

19. Attempt an essay on the play of appearance and reality in the Twelfth Night.
20. Write an essay on how Howard Jacobson departs from the stereotype of the villainous Jew in Shylock is my Name.
21. Discuss the parallels between the Lear – Cordelia (from King Lear) and Ichimonji – Saburo (from Ran) relationships.
22. Attempt an essay on the relationship between the physical structure of the Elizabethan stage and theatre on the one hand and the structure and content of Shakespeare's plays on the other. (15x2=30)