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6 SEM TDC ENGH (CBCS) C 13

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(May)

ENGLISH

(Core)

Paper : C-13

(Modern European Drama)

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. Answer any one of the following questions : 15

- (a) Examine Henrik Ibsen's *Ghosts* in the light of his attitude towards the hollowness of traditional bourgeois customs and values.
- (b) "As ghost-son, Oswald is a replica of the dead father, a fleshly sign of his mother's tragic cowardice, a sickly and powerful proof of the tenacity of the *Ghosts*." Discuss.
- (c) Analyze the theme of despair in Ibsen's *Ghosts*.

(2)

2. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 5

- (a) What is the metaphorical significance of Oswald's shouting 'the sun-the sun' in the last part of the play?
- (b) Explain the significance of the symbol of 'ghosts' in the play.
- (c) Attempt a character sketch of Mrs. Alving.

3. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15

- (a) ~~By~~ employing the alienation effect Bertolt Brecht aimed to encourage his audience to think critically and unemotionally rather than passively to accept the issues that the plays represent. How does this manifest in the play, *The Good Woman of Szechwan*?
- (b) Critically analyze the concept of goodness in Brecht's *The Good Woman of Szechwan*.
- (c) Prepare a character sketch of Shen Te.

4. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 5

- (a) Critically analyze the following lines :
But I am not certain of myself,
Illustrious Ones. How can I be good
when everything is so expensive?

(3)

- (b) In the play, *The Good Woman of Szechwan*, what is the nature of relation of the God's towards other characters?
- (c) Critically comment on the character of Mrs. Yang.

5. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15

- (a) Discuss critically the dramatic significance of the character of Godot in the play, *Waiting for Godot*.
- (b) Critically evaluate the theme of absurdity in the play, *Waiting for Godot*.
- (c) Comment critically on the treatment of the concept of time in *Waiting for Godot*.

6. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 5

- (a) Critically examine the following lines :
Estragon : He should be here.
Vladimir : He didn't say for sure he'd come.
Estragon : And if he doesn't come?
Vladimir : We'll come back tomorrow.
- (b) Discuss the dramatic significance of the Lucky-Pozzo relationship.
- (c) Prepare a note on the salient features of *The Theatre of The Absurd*.

7. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15

- (a) Discuss Ionesco's play, *Rhinoceros* as a critique of collective hysteria as precipitated by fascist ideology.
- (b) "The transformation of Berenger from an apathetic, alcoholic and ennui-ridden man into the savior of humanity constitutes the major theme of *Rhinoceros*." Explain.
- (c) Critically comment on the theme of alienation in Ionesco's play, *Rhinoceros*.

8. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 5

- (a) Explain with reference to the context :
Berenger [to Jean] : Life is an abnormal business.
Jean : On the contrary. Nothing could be more natural, and the proof is that people go on living.
Berenger : There are more dead people than living. And their numbers are increasing. The living are getting rarer.
- (b) Attempt a character sketch of Dudard.
- (c) Comment on the ending of the play, *Rhinoceros* with reference to Berenger's cry "I'm the last man left, and I'm staying that way until the end. I'm not capitulating".
