

**M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2020**  
**II Year III Semester**  
**Shakespeare Studies**

**Time : 3 Hours**

**Max.marks :75**

**Section A** ( $10 \times 2 = 20$ ) Marks

Answer any **TEN** questions

1. Discuss Time and its urgency as the main theme of Sonnet 12 by Shakespeare.
2. Do you think Shakespeare has succeeded in overcoming mortality through his immortal writings? Explain with reference to Sonnet 65.
3. In what way does the opening scene of Hamlet set the mood for the play that follows?
4. Comment on the lines "Frailty, thy name is woman."
5. Write a short note on the significance of Falstaff's speech undermining the ideal of honour in In Henry IV, Part 1.
6. How does Shakespeare present Henry IV as politically skillful?
7. Give few examples to show how Shakespeare uses language to indicate class differences among the characters in the play As You Like It.
8. Explain the role of minor characters such as Stephano and Trinculo in the play The Tempest by Shakespeare.
9. Critically comment on the lines "All the characters are to some extent guilty of yielding to evil and are paralyzed by fear."
10. What is the peculiarity of Othello? What is the distinctive impression that it leaves? How are these questions answered by A.C. Bradley?
11. Compare and contrast The Forest of Arden in As You Like It with the Garden of Eden.
12. Does Shakespeare identify himself as Prospero in his last play The Tempest? Justify.

**Section B** ( $5 \times 5 = 25$ ) Marks

Answer any **FIVE** questions

13. Attempt a critical appreciation of Sonnet 130 by William Shakespeare.
14. Briefly explain the significance of the Soliloquies in Hamlet.
15. 'Falstaff is considered to be one of the greatest characters in English literature.' Substantiate with suitable examples.

16. "Shakespeare doesn't belong to one age but is a man of all ages." Justify the statement with special reference to the very significant All the Worlds a Stage dialogue delivered by Jacques in As You Like It.
17. Comment on A.C. Bradley's observations about the tragedy Othello.
18. What are the various incidents in the play The Tempest which convey to us that Shakespeare is bidding good bye to the English stage?
19. "Macbeth is Shakespeare's most profound and mature vision of evil." Why does Wilson Knight make such a statement?

**Section C** ( $3 \times 10 = 30$ ) Marks

Answer any **THREE** questions

20. Taking into consideration the specific sonnets of Shakespeare prescribed for study discuss the theme of immortality.
21. Procrastination is the main reason for so many complications in the play Hamlet. Do you think Hamlet is justified in procrastinating to take revenge?
22. Consider the play Henry IV Part I as a Historical Play.
23. Discuss the play The Tempest as a postcolonial play.
24. Is there any poetic justice in the tragedies of Shakespeare? Explain with reference to the essays by Wilson Knight and A.C. Bradley prescribed for study.

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