

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2011–12)

SUBJECT CODE:11EL/MC/DR34

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2012
BRANCH XII – ENGLISH
THIRD SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR – CORE
PAPER : DRAMA - II
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS : 100

I. Critically analyse the following extract in not more than 600 words with reference to theme, technique and characterization: (1x20=20)

SHUI TA: I was her only friend!
WANG: Where is she then? Tell us where your good friend is!
(*the excitement of this exchange has run through the whole crowd.*)
ALL: Yes, Where is she? Where is Shen Te? (*Etc.*)
SHUI TA: Shen Te... had to go.
ALL: Why? Why did she have to go away? (*Etc.*)
WANG: (*into the din with the first words, but talking on beyond the others*) Why not, why not? Why did she have to go away?
SHUI TA (*shouting*): Because you'd all have her torn her to shreds, that's why! My lords, I have a request. Clear the court! When only the judges remain, I will make a confession.
ALL: (*except WANG, who is silent, struck by the new turn of events*): So he's guilty? He's confessing! (*Etc.*)
FIRST GOD (*using the gavel*): Clear the court!
POLICEMAN: Clear the court!
WANG: Mr. Shui Ta has met his match this time.
MRS SHIN (*with a gesture towards the judges*): You're in for a little surprise. (*The court is cleared. Silence*)
SHUI TA: Illustrious ones!
(*The GODS look at each other, not quite believing their ears.*)
SHUI TA: Yes, I recognize you!
SECOND GOD (*taking matters in hand sternly*): What have you done with our good woman of Setzuan?
SHUI TA: I have a terrible confession to make: I am she! (*He takes off the mask, tears away his clothes. SHEN TE stands there.*)
SECOND GOD Shen Te!
SHEN TE: Shen Te, yes. Shui Ta *and* Shen Te. Both.
Your injunction
To be good and yet to live
Was a thunderbolt:
It has torn me in two

I can't tell how it was
But to be good to others
And myself at the same time
I could not do it
Your world is not an easy one, illustrious ones!

II. Answer any THREE of the following in not more than 300 words each:. (3x10=30)

1. Comment on Brecht's use of songs in *The Good Woman of Setzuan*.
2. Write an essay on *The Importance of Being Earnest* as a Comedy of Manners.
3. Beckett called *Waiting for Godot* a "tragicomedy". Do you agree with this classification?
4. Analyse Beckett's use of 'repetition' in *Waiting for Godot*.
5. Discuss the appropriateness of the title *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

III. Answer any TWO of the following in not more than 650 words each: (2x25=50)

1. Great comedies are a satire of the society in which they are produced yet they have a universal appeal. Justify this statement with examples from *The Importance of Being Earnest*.
2. Enumerate the features of Epic theatre citing examples from *The Good Woman of Setzuan*.
3. *Waiting for Godot* does not tell a story, "Nothing happens, nobody comes, nobody goes". Illustrate.
4. Comment on the development of drama after 1969 referring to at least two dramatists prescribed for study.
