

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI 600086
(for candidates admitted during the academic year 2019-20 and thereafter)
SUBJECT CODE: 19EL/MC/DR23

B.A DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2023
BRANCH XII ENGLISH
SECOND SEMESTER

COURSE: MAJOR CORE
TITLE: DRAMA

TIME: 3 HOURS
MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION A

I. Answer any two of the following in about 150 words each. (2x10=20 marks)

1. Name and explain the three unities of drama.
2. Explain the symbolic value of the domestic setting in *A Doll's House*.
3. Define and briefly discuss the features of tragicomedy.
4. How different is Brecht's Epic Theatre from traditional theatre?

SECTION B

II. Answer any three of the following in about 400 words each. (3x20=60 marks)

5. Trace the history of tragedy giving suitable examples.
6. Analyse the renowned speech of the melancholy Jaques about the seven ages of men.
7. Sketch the character of Grusha as a mother against the backdrop of war.
8. Discuss the character of Kristine Linde as a foil to the character of Nora Helmer.
9. Bring out the unique contributions of Shakespeare in the field of drama.

SECTION C

III. Analyse the following passage bringing out the contrast between the forest and the court. (1x20=20 marks)

10.

DUKE SENIOR

Now, my co-mates and brothers in exile,
Hath not old custom made this life more sweet
Than that of painted pomp? Are not these woods
More free from peril than the envious court?
Here feel we but the penalty of Adam,
The seasons' difference, as the icy fang
And churlish chiding of the winter's wind,
Which, when it bites and blows upon my body,
Even till I shrink with cold, I smile and say
'This is no flattery: these are counsellors
That feelingly persuade me what I am.'
Sweet are the uses of adversity,
Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head;
And this our life exempt from public haunt
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones and good in every thing.
I would not change it.

AMIENS

Happy is your grace,
That can translate the stubbornness of fortune
Into so quiet and so sweet a style.

DUKE SENIOR

Come, shall we go and kill us venison?
And yet it irks me the poor dappled fools,
Being native burghers of this desert city,
Should in their own confines with forked heads
Have their round haunches gored.

First Lord

Indeed, my lord,
The melancholy Jaques grieves at that,
And, in that kind, swears you do more usurp
Than doth your brother that hath banish'd you.
To-day my Lord of Amiens and myself
Did steal behind him as he lay along
Under an oak whose antique root peeps out
Upon the brook that brawls along this wood:
To the which place a poor sequester'd stag,
That from the hunter's aim had ta'en a hurt,
Did come to languish, and indeed, my lord,
The wretched animal heaved forth such groans
That their discharge did stretch his leathern coat
Almost to bursting, and the big round tears
Coursed one another down his innocent nose
In piteous chase; and thus the hairy fool
Much marked of the melancholy Jaques,
Stood on the extremest verge of the swift brook,
Augmenting it with tears.

DUKE SENIOR

But what said Jaques?
Did he not moralize this spectacle?

First Lord

O, yes, into a thousand similes.
First, for his weeping into the needless stream;
'Poor deer,' quoth he, 'thou makest a testament
As worldlings do, giving thy sum of more
To that which had too much:' then, being there alone,
Left and abandon'd of his velvet friends,
'Tis right:' quoth he; 'thus misery doth part
The flux of company:' anon a careless herd,

Full of the pasture, jumps along by him
And never stays to greet him; 'Ay' quoth Jaques,
'Sweep on, you fat and greasy citizens;
'Tis just the fashion: wherefore do you look
Upon that poor and broken bankrupt there?'
Thus most invectively he pierceth through
The body of the country, city, court,
Yea, and of this our life, swearing that we
Are mere usurpers, tyrants and what's worse,
To fright the animals and to kill them up
In their assign'd and native dwelling-place.
