

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2014  
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 characterisation: (1x20=20)

THE FIRST GOD: What does that mean? Does the carpenter Lin To speak badly of her?

WANG: Oh, he only says that the shelves in the store weren't paid for in full.

THE SECOND GOD: What are you saying now? A carpenter wasn't paid? In Shen Te's store? How could she allow that?

WANG: I guess she didn't have the money.

THE SECOND GOD: All the same one pays what one owes. The mere appearance of injustice has to be avoided. First the letter of the commandment must be fulfilled. Then the spirit.

WANG: But it was her cousin, illustrious one, not she herself.

THE SECOND GOD: Then that cousin must never cross her threshold again!

WANG (*downcast*): I understand, illustrious one! In defense of Shen Te, let me at least say that her cousin is considered a highly respectable businessman. Even the police value him.

THE FIRST GOD: Well, we don't want to damn this cousin without having heard him. I admit I don't understand anything about business. Perhaps one should make enquiries to find out what is customary. But, anyway, business-is it so very necessary? They are always doing business nowadays! Did the seven good kings do business? Did the Kung the Just sell fish? What does business have to do with an honest and dignified life?

THE SECOND GOD (*with a bad cold*): In any case such a thing must not happen again. (*He turns to go. The two other Gods turn too*)

THE THIRD GOD (*the last to turn away, embarrassed*): You must forgive our harsh tone today. We're over-tired and haven't slept enough. Lodgings for the night! The wealthy give us the very best of recommendations to the poor, but the poor don't have enough room.

THE GODS (*moving away, grumbling*): Weak, the best of them! Nothing decisive! Little, little! Everything from the heart of course, but it doesn't amount to much! At least, she should see that...  
(*One no longer hears them*)

WANG (*calling after them*): Oh don't be angry, illustrious ones! Don't ask too much all at once!

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

1. Illustrate with examples the use of wit in *The Importance of Being Earnest*?
2. What are the stylistic devices used in Brecht's *The Good Woman of Tsetzuan*?
3. Write a note on the characterization in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.
4. Discuss the relevance of the title *Waiting for Godot*.
5. How is the emptiness of life portrayed in *Waiting for Godot*?

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

1. Discuss the features of the Absurd in *Waiting for Godot*.
2. What are the features of epic theatre that are found in Brecht's *The Good Woman of Tsetzuan*?
3. How did drama develop in the 20<sup>th</sup> century? Discuss with reference to at least two dramatists prescribed for study.
4. Elaborate with suitable examples the features of the Comedy of Manners as present in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

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