

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086

(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2008-09 & thereafter)

SUBJECT CODE: EL/MC/DR24

B. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2010

BRANCH XII – ENGLISH

SECOND SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR – CORE

PAPER : DRAMA

TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS : 100

I. Read the following passages and answer the questions given below: (2x20=40)

a) **Faust:** How comes it, then, that thou art out of hell?

Meph: Why this is hell, nor am I out of it:

Think'st thou that I, who saw the face of God,

And tasted the eternal joys of heaven,

Am not tormented with ten thousand hells,

In being depriv'd of everlasting bliss?

O Faustus, leave these frivolous demands,

Which strike a terror to my fainting soul!

Faust: What, is great Mephistophilis so passionate

For being deprived of the joys of heaven?

Learn thou of Faustus manly fortitude,

And scorn those joys thou shalt never possess.

Go bear these tidings to great Lucifer:

Seeing Faustus hath incurr'd eternal death

By desperate thoughts against Jove's deity,

Say, he surrenders up to him his soul,

So he will spare him four and twenty years,

Letting him live in all voluptuousness;

Having thee ever to attend on me,

To give me whatsoever I shall ask,

To tell me whatsoever I demand,

To slay mine enemies, and aid my friends,

And always be obedient to my will.

Go and return to mighty Lucifer,

And meet me in my study at midnight,

And then resolve me of thy master's mind.

1. What, according to Mephistophilis, is "hell"? (4)
2. What are the "frivolous demands" made by Faustus? (2)
3. Give the meanings of the following words as used in the text (1x4)
 - a) tormented b) fortitude c) tidings d) voluptuousness
4. What does the term "eternal death" mean? (1)
5. Who is Lucifer? (1)
6. What message does Faustus send to Lucifer? (2)
7. What tasks does Faustus expect Mephistophilis to perform for him? (4)
8. Comment on any two qualities of Faustus that are seen in this passage. (2)

..2

b) **Faust:** I hope His Holiness will bid us welcome.

Meph: Tut, 'tis no matter, man; we'll be bold with his good cheer.

And now, my Faustus, that thou mayst perceive
 What Rome containeth to delight thee with,
 Know that this city stands upon seven hills,
 That underprop the groundwork of the same:
 Just through the midst runs flowing Tiber's stream,
 With winding banks that cut it in to two parts;
 Over the which four stately bridges lean,
 That make safe passage to each part of Rome.
 Upon the bridge call'd Ponte Angelo,
 Erected is a castle passing strong,
 Within whose walls such store of ordnance are,
 And double cannons framed of carved brass,
 As match the days within one complete year;
 Besides the gates, and high pyramides,
 Which Julius Caesar brought from Africa.

Faust: Now, by the kingdoms of infernal rule,
 Of Styx, of Acheron, and the fiery lake
 Of ever-burning Phlegethon, I swear
 That I do long to see the monuments
 And situation of bright-splendent Rome;
 Come, therefore, let's away.

Meph: Nay, Faustus, stay: I know you'd fain see the Pope,
 And take some part of holy Peter's feast,
 Where thou shalt see a troop of bald-pate friars,
 Whose summum bonum is in belly-cheer.

1. Who does the term "His Holiness" in the first line refer to? (1)
2. How does Mephistophilis describe the city of Rome? (4)
3. What does "Ponte Angelo" mean and what famous building is situated at one end of it? (2)
4. What treasures does the castle contain? (4)
5. Explain the terms:
 a) good cheer b) underprop c) passing strong d) bright-splendent (½ x4=2)
6. What are Styx, Acheron and Phlegethon and where are they located? (2)
7. What is the dramatic purpose of this scene? (2)
8. Why does Marlowe make a mockery of the Pope and the friars? (2)
9. Give the meaning of the phrase "summum bonum". (1)

II. Answer the following in about 750 words:

(3x20=60)

- a) According to Aristotle, Oedipus Rex is the best Greek tragedy. Would you agree? Give reasons for your answer.

OR

Comment on the dramatic irony in Oedipus Rex.

- b) Trace the tragic conflict in Dr. Faustus and comment on the role played by Mephistophilis.

OR

Could Dr. Faustus be described as a morality play?

- c) Comment on the role of women as depicted in the play A Doll's House.

OR

What does Torvald's fascination with beauty and appearances imply about his personality? Do his attitudes change at all over the course of the play?
