

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2011–2012 and thereafter)
SUBJECT CODE: 11EL/MC/SH54

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2015
BRANCH XII - ENGLISH
FIFTH SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR CORE
PAPER : SHAKESPEARE
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

I. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below: 20 Marks

DUKE SENIOR

I think he be transform'd into a beast;
For I can nowhere find him like a man.

FIRST LORD

My lord, he is but even now gone hence:
Here was he merry, hearing of a song.

DUKE SENIOR

If he, compact of jars, grow musical,
We shall have shortly discord in the spheres.
Go, seek him: tell him I would speak with him.

Enter JAQUES

First Lord

He saves my labour by his own approach.

DUKE SENIOR

Why, how now, monsieur! what a life is this,
That your poor friends must woo your company?
What, you look merrily!

JAQUES

A fool, a fool! I met a fool i' the forest,
A motley fool; a miserable world!
As I do live by food, I met a fool
Who laid him down and bask'd him in the sun,
And rail'd on Lady Fortune in good terms,
In good set terms and yet a motley fool.
'Good morrow, fool,' quoth I. 'No, sir,' quoth he,
'Call me not fool till heaven hath sent me fortune:'
And then he drew a dial from his poke,
And, looking on it with lack-lustre eye,
Says very wisely, 'It is ten o'clock:
Thus we may see,' quoth he, 'how the world wags:
'Tis but an hour ago since it was nine,

And after one hour more 'twill be eleven;
 And so, from hour to hour, we ripe and ripe,
 And then, from hour to hour, we rot and rot;
 And thereby hangs a tale.' When I did hear
 The motley fool thus moral on the time,
 My lungs began to crow like chanticleer,
 That fools should be so deep-contemplative,
 And I did laugh sans intermission
 An hour by his dial. O noble fool!
 A worthy fool! Motley's the only wear.

DUKE SENIOR
 What fool is this?

JAQUES
 O worthy fool! One that hath been a courtier,
 And says, if ladies be but young and fair,
 They have the gift to know it: and in his brain,
 Which is as dry as the remainder biscuit
 After a voyage, he hath strange places cramm'd
 With observation, the which he vents
 In mangled forms. O that I were a fool!
 I am ambitious for a motley coat.

DUKE SENIOR
 Thou shalt have one.

JAQUES
 It is my only suit;
 Provided that you weed your better judgments
 Of all opinion that grows rank in them
 That I am wise. I must have liberty
 Withal, as large a charter as the wind,
 To blow on whom I please; for so fools have;
 And they that are most galled with my folly,
 They most must laugh. And why, sir, must they so?
 The 'why' is plain as way to parish church:
 He that a fool doth very wisely hit
 Doth very foolishly, although he smart,
 Not to seem senseless of the bob: if not,
 The wise man's folly is anatomized
 Even by the squandering glances of the fool.
 Invest me in my motley; give me leave
 To speak my mind, and I will through and through
 Cleanse the foul body of the infected world,
 If they will patiently receive my medicine.

DUKE SENIOR
 Fie on thee! I can tell what thou wouldst do.

JAQUES

What, for a counter, would I do but good?

DUKE SENIOR

Most mischievous foul sin, in chiding sin:
 For thou thyself hast been a libertine,
 As sensual as the brutish sting itself;
 And all the embossed sores and headed evils,
 That thou with licence of free foot hast caught,
 Wouldst thou disgorge into the general world.

JAQUES

Why, who cries out on pride,
 That can therein tax any private party?
 Doth it not flow as hugely as the sea,
 Till that the weary very means do ebb?
 What woman in the city do I name,
 When that I say the city-woman bears
 The cost of princes on unworthy shoulders?
 Who can come in and say that I mean her,
 When such a one as she such is her neighbour?
 Or what is he of basest function
 That says his bravery is not of my cost,
 Thinking that I mean him, but therein suits
 His folly to the mettle of my speech?
 There then; how then? what then? Let me see wherein
 My tongue hath wrong'd him: if it do him right,
 Then he hath wrong'd himself; if he be free,
 Why then my taxing like a wild-goose flies,
 Unclaim'd of any man.

- a. Comment on the character of Jacques as a perfect foil to the Duke. (6 Marks)
- b. “Jacques’ presence is an antithesis to the spirit of a pastoral comedy”. Comment. (8 marks)
- c. How does Shakespeare foreground the role of a fool in a play through Jacques? (6 marks)

II. Answer any TWO of the following in about 250-400 words (2x10=20)

1. “The Tavern world is an effective commentary on the Court World in *Henry IV Part I*”. Comment.
2. “Iago’s evil manifests itself in his love for exerting power over others”. Comment.
3. Compare and contrast Hal’s and Hotspur’s quest for honour.
4. Discuss Shakespeare’s views on love and lust in Sonnets 116 and 129 respectively.

III. Answer the following in about 750 words.**(3x20=60)**

1. “It is Falstaff who puts things in proper perspective by creating counterhistories in *Henry IV Part I*”. Comment.

OR

Write an essay on the rise and fall of Othello.

2. “The Forest of Arden represents the world of Art, which effects spiritual transformations in people”. Comment.

OR

“Rosalind as a cross dressing heroine showcases the fluidity of gender”. Discuss.

3. Do you agree with the view that Shakespeare makes a radical departure from the Sonnet tradition by exploring a wide variety of themes?

OR

“The transformation of Prince Hal is more theatrical than real”. Comment.
