

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2008 – 09)

SUBJECT CODE: EL/MC/SH54

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2010
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 that follow: (15 marks)

DUKE: If music be the food of love, play on,
Give me excess of it; that, surfeiting,
The appetite may sicken and so die.--
That strain again;--it had a dying fall;
O, it came o'er my ear like the sweet south,
That breathes upon a bank of violets,
Stealing and giving odour.--Enough; no more;
'Tis not so sweet now as it was before.
O spirit of love, how quick and fresh art thou!
That, notwithstanding thy capacity
Receiveth as the sea, nought enters there,
Of what validity and pitch soever,
But falls into abatement and low price
Even in a minute! so full of shapes is fancy,
That it alone is high-fantastical.

CURIO: Will you go hunt, my lord?
DUKE: What, Curio?
CURIO: The hart
DUKE: Why, so I do, the noblest that I have:
O, when mine eyes did see Olivia first,
Methought she purg'd the air of pestilence;
That instant was I turn'd into a hart;
And my desires, like fell and cruel hounds,
E'er since pursue me.--How now! what news from her?
[Enter VALENTINE.]

VALENTINE: So please my lord, I might not be admitted,
But from her handmaid do return this answer:
The element itself, till seven years' heat,
Shall not behold her face at ample view;
But like a cloistress she will veiled walk,
And water once a-day her chamber round
With eye-offending brine: all this to season
A brother's dead love, which she would keep fresh
And lasting in her sad remembrance.

DUKE: O, she that hath a heart of that fine frame
 To pay this debt of love but to a brother,
 How will she love when the rich golden shaft
 Hath kill'd the flock of all affections else
 That live in her; when liver, brain, and heart,
 These sovereign thrones, are all supplied and fill'd,--
 Her sweet perfections,--with one self king!--
 Away before me to sweet beds of flowers:
 Love-thoughts lie rich when canopied with bowers.

1. Paraphrase the duke's initial speech "If music be the food of love..." (5)
2. Bring out the pun in deer-hunting. (3)
3. Comment on the duke's response to Olivia's mourning. (2)
4. Compare the follies of Orsino and Olivia. (5)

II. Answer any THREE of the following in 250-300 words. (3x15=45 marks)

1. Comment on the uncertainty of gender in **Twelfth Night**.
2. Nicholas Rowe states that "In *Twelfth Night* there is something singularly ridiculous and pleasant in the fantastical steward Malvolio". Justify this statement.
3. Is Iago an influential villain or powerless character of fiction? Discuss.
4. "What we see in Orsino is an unfulfilled nature...prowling to and fro like a caged animal." Discuss.
5. Attempt a character sketch of Sir John Falstaff.
6. Is Shakespeare's ideal of romantic love extreme? Elaborate with reference to the prescribed sonnets for study.

III. Answer any TWO of the following in 750 words. (2x20=40 marks)

1. CL Barber says that a festival occasion can illuminate comedies where Shakespeare drew largely and directly on holiday motifs... Discuss.
2. Discuss the role that race plays in Shakespeare's portrayal of **Othello**. How does Othello see himself and how do the other characters react to the fact that he is a Moor?
3. Hotspur and Falstaff represent two opposite ideals of honour and conduct as against Prince Hal. How does Prince Hal respond to the two and redeem himself at the end?
4. Alexander Pope exclaimed that "...every single character in Shakespeare is as much an Individual as those in Life itself; it is as impossible to find any two alike". Critically analyse this statement with special reference to the prescribed texts.
