

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted from the academic year 2015-16)

SUBJECT CODE:15EL/PC/SH44

M. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2018
BRANCH VII – ENGLISH
FOURTH SEMESTER

COURSE : CORE
PAPER : SHAKESPEARE
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION A

I Answer any one of the following in about 1000 words:

(1 x 25 = 25)

I. Critically analyse one of the following passages.

KING CLAUDIUS

Though yet of Hamlet our dear brother's death
The memory be green, and that it us befitted
To bear our hearts in grief and our whole kingdom
To be contracted in one brow of woe,
Yet so far hath discretion fought with nature
That we with wisest sorrow think on him,
Together with remembrance of ourselves.
Therefore our sometime sister, now our queen,
The imperial jointress to this warlike state,
Have we, as 'twere with a defeated joy,--
With an auspicious and a dropping eye,
With mirth in funeral and with dirge in marriage,
In equal scale weighing delight and dole,--
Taken to wife: nor have we herein barr'd
Your better wisdoms, which have freely gone
With this affair along. For all, our thanks.

OR

THESEUS

More strange than true: I never may believe
These antique fables, nor these fairy toys.
Lovers and madmen have such seething brains,
Such shaping fantasies, that apprehend
More than cool reason ever comprehends.
The lunatic, the lover and the poet
Are of imagination all compact:
One sees more devils than vast hell can hold,
That is, the madman: the lover, all as frantic,
Sees Helen's beauty in a brow of Egypt:
The poet's eye, in fine frenzy rolling,
Doth glance from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven;
And as imagination bodies forth

The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen
 Turns them to shapes and gives to airy nothing
 A local habitation and a name.
 Such tricks hath strong imagination,
 That if it would but apprehend some joy,
 It comprehends some bringer of that joy;
 Or in the night, imagining some fear,
 How easy is a bush supposed a bear!

SECTION B

II Answer any one of the following in about 1000 words:

(1 x 25 = 25)

1. "In his openness to the audience during the soliloquies, we get to witness the truth of who Hamlet is becoming. At the other moments throughout the play, we get to glimpse a different sort of truth, which is the truth of who Hamlet was." Comment.
2. Write an essay on the governing metaphor of the dream in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

SECTION C

III Answer any two of the following in about 1000 words each:

(2 x 25 = 50)

1. "The play *Henry V* is a celebration of England and an English King and so may be called a 'National Anthem in Five Acts'." Discuss.
2. Do you agree with the view that Laurence Olivier's film version of *Henry V* served more as propaganda as it was produced in wartime England? Give reasons.
3. Compare and contrast Laurence Olivier's and Kenneth Branagh's film versions as representations of two contradictory ideological positions.
4. "The persona in the Sonnets is Shakespeare himself." Comment.
