

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

SUBJECT CODE: 15EL/PC/SH44

M. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2019
BRANCH VII – ENGLISH
FOURTH SEMESTER

COURSE : CORE
PAPER : SHAKESPEARE
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION A

I. Attempt a critical analysis and interpretation of any one of the given passages.

(1 x 25 = 25)

1. Hamlet

Let me see

Takes the skull

Alas, poor Yorick! I knew him, Horatio: a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy: he hath borne me on his back a thousand times; and now, how abhorred in my imagination it is! my gorge rims at it. Here hung those lips that I have kissed I know not how oft. Where be your gibes now? your gambols? your songs? your flashes of merriment, that were wont to set the table on a roar? Not one now, to mock your own grinning? quite chap-fallen? Now get you to my lady's chamber, and tell her, let her paint an inch thick, to this favour she must come; make her laugh at that. Prithee, Horatio, tell me one thing.

Horatio

What's that, my lord?

Hamlet

Dost thou think Alexander looked o' this fashion i' the earth?

Horatio

E'en so.

Hamlet

And smelt so? pah!

Puts down the skull

Horatio

E'en so, my lord.

Hamlet

To what base uses we may return, Horatio! Why may
not imagination trace the noble dust of Alexander,
till he find it stopping a bung-hole?

Horatio

'Twere to consider too curiously, to consider so.

Hamlet

No, faith, not a jot; but to follow him thither with
modesty enough, and likelihood to lead it: as
thus: Alexander died, Alexander was buried,
Alexander returneth into dust; the dust is earth; of
earth we make loam; and why of that loam, whereto he
was converted, might they not stop a beer-barrel?
Imperious Caesar, dead and turn'd to clay,
Might stop a hole to keep the wind away:
O, that that earth, which kept the world in awe,
Should patch a wall to expel the winter flaw!
But soft! but soft! aside: here comes the king.

OR

2. Oberon

Now, until the break of day,
Through this house each fairy stray.
To the best bride-bed will we,
Which by us shall blessed be;
And the issue there create
Ever shall be fortunate.
So shall all the couples three
Ever true in loving be;
And the blots of Nature's hand
Shall not in their issue stand;
Never mole, hare lip, nor scar,
Nor mark prodigious, such as are
Despised in nativity,
Shall upon their children be.
With this field-dew consecrate,
Every fairy take his gait;
And each several chamber bless,
Through this palace, with sweet peace;
And the owner of it blest
Ever shall in safety rest.
Trip away; make no stay;
Meet me all by break of day.

Exeunt OBERON, TITANIA, and train

Puck

If we shadows have offended,
 Think but this, and all is mended,
 That you have but slumber'd here
 While these visions did appear.
 And this weak and idle theme,
 No more yielding but a dream,
 Gentles, do not reprehend:
 if you pardon, we will mend:
 And, as I am an honest Puck,
 If we have unearned luck
 Now to 'scape the serpent's tongue,
 We will make amends ere long;
 Else the Puck a liar call;
 So, good night unto you all.
 Give me your hands, if we be friends,
 And Robin shall restore amends.

SECTION B

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

(1 x 25 = 25)

1. Elucidate the significance of a play within the play in *Hamlet*.
2. Discuss the significance of the role played by the female characters in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

SECTION C

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

(2 x 25 = 50)

1. Critically compare Olivier's and Branagh's adaptation of *Henry V*.
2. Discuss the dramatic devices used in Shakespeare's *Henry V*.
3. Attempt a comparative analysis of Shakespeare's sonnets 116, 129 and 130.
4. Critically analyse Shakespeare's sonnets 46, 60 and 99 with reference to style.
