

THIRD SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2024
(Regular/Improvement/Supplementary)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE
FENG3E07 - WORLD DRAMA

Time: 3 Hours

Maximum Weightage: 30

Part A: Short essay questions. Answer any *five* questions. Each carries 2 weightage.

1. How does the clash between the six characters and the actors in “Six Characters in Search of an Author” highlight the play’s exploration of reality versus illusion?
2. What is the symbolic significance of the storm in Act 3 with regard to Lear’s emotional and mental states in “King Lear”?
3. What is the significance of the anarchist’s death in “The Accidental Death of an Anarchist” and explain how it functions to critique state power?
4. What is the symbolic significance of the clay cart in the play “The Little Clay Cart”?
5. Examine how the letter from Krogstad carries the plot forward and reveals important aspects of the characters’ relationships in “A Doll’s House”?
6. What is the significance of the dead body in “Amédée”, and how does it enhance the play’s exploration of existential themes?
7. How does Genet use metatheatrical elements in “The Balcony” to blur the distinction between performance and reality?

(5 × 2 = 10 weightage)

Part B: Long essay questions. Answer any *four* questions. Each carries 5 weightage.

8. How does “Six Characters in Search of an Author” use its characters to explore the theme of absurdity in human existence and artistic creation? Provide examples from the characters’ interactions and their quest for representation.
9. How effective is the use of humor in “The Accidental Death of an Anarchist”? Discuss how Dario Fo uses comic elements to address serious political issues.
10. In what ways do the characters in “King Lear” exhibit both literal and metaphorical blindness? Discuss how blindness and insight are portrayed and how they contribute to the play’s tragic elements.

(P.T.O.)

11. How does the use of the chorus in “The Other Shore” contribute to the development of the play’s themes and its narrative structure?
12. How does “The Cherry Orchard” depict the socio-economic changes in Russia at the turn of the 20th century, and what impact do these changes have on the characters?
13. How does “Oedipus Rex” address the concept of fate versus free will? Analyse how the play portrays the tension between predetermined destiny and personal choice.

(4 × 5 = 20 weightage)