

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN  
ENGLISH**

**Term-End Examination**

**June, 2007**

**MEG-2 : BRITISH DRAMA**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 100*

---

**Note :** Answer question number **1** which is **compulsory**, and any **four** from the remaining questions. All questions carry equal marks.

---

---

1. Annotate any **four** of the following passages with reference to the context in not more than 150 words each : 4×5=20
- (i) '....if I had an appointment with a Godin....Godet....Godot....anyhow, you see who I mean, I'd wait till its was a black night before I gave up .....
- (ii) You see this creature with her kerbstone English : the English that will keep her in the gutter to the end of her days. Well, sir, in three months I could pass that girl off as a duchess at an ambassador's garden party.

- (iii) You know that I am an indulgent master;  
And therefore conceal nothing.  
                                What’s your medicine,  
To draw so many several sorts of wild fowl ?
- (iv) List, list, O list!  
If thou didst ever thy dear father love....  
Revenge his foul and most unnatural murder....
- (v) I rage and shout my head off, and everyone thinks  
“poor chap!” or “what an objectionable young  
man!” But that girl there can twist your arm off with  
her silence... I want to be there when you grovel. I  
want to be there, I want to watch it, I want the front  
seat.

2. Write a long note on : Changes in the conventions of  
Revenge Drama in Elizabethan England. (400 words)      20

**OR**

Where knowledge should be strength, it turns out to be a  
weakness in *Doctor Faustus*. Discuss. (400 words)

3. Analyse Hamlet’s response to his mother’s marriage to  
Claudius. (400 words)      20

**OR**

In *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* Athens has ‘a  
hierarchical patriarchal order’ while the forest seems to be  
‘a place of disorder’. Discuss. (400 words)

4. Jonson's play is a satire on the profession of alchemy; but alchemy is also of metaphorical significance in his play. Comment. (400 words) 20

**OR**

Discuss theatricality as a metaphor in any of the plays in your course (e.g. in *Hamlet*, etc.). (400 words)

5. Would you agree that the real themes of *The Playboy of the Western World* are love and marriage, and not patricide? Justify your answer. (400 words) 20

**OR**

How does *Look Back in Anger* reflect the changing equations between the sexes in post-war Britain? (400 words)

6. The martyrdom of Thomas Becket in Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral* is best understood as a conflict between the individual and the state. Discuss. (400 words) 20

**OR**

In *Waiting for Godot* Beckett is not speaking of any particular place, but of a 'cosmic state, a world condition in which all humanity is involved'. Discuss. (400 words)

7. Write short notes on any **two** of the following in not more than 200 words each :  $2 \times 10 = 20$

- (i) Chorus of women in *Murder in the Cathedral*
- (ii) The serpent in Helena's dream
- (iii) Dark comedy
- (iv) Claudius in the prayer scene in *Hamlet*