

2026

ENGLISH

(Major)

Paper : ENG4400104MJ

(British Drama : Renaissance to the
Eighteenth Century)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions.*

1. Answer the following : 1×8=8

- (a) What are the three caskets made of ?
- (b) What position does Bosola hold at the beginning of the play?
- (c) In which period was the play, *The Way of the World* written?
- (d) Who is the female protagonist loved by Mirabel?
- (e) Who is Portia's suitor from Morocco?

(2)

- (f) Which casket does Bassanio choose?
- (g) Who is Delio in relation to Antonio?
- (h) Who is Sir Wilfull's guardian?

2. Answer any six of the following : $2 \times 6 = 12$

- (a) How does climax contribute to the resolution of the plot?
- (b) What is meant by allegory in a drama?
- (c) What role do the Seven Deadly Sins play in the allegorical drama?
- (d) What aspect of a character is revealed through an aside?
- (e) Name two types of stage machinery used in Renaissance drama.
- (f) How is the chorus different from the individual characters in a play?
- (g) How does Antonio's fortune change by the end of the play?
- (h) What is the significance of the echo scene?
- (i) What is the role of madness in the play, *The Duchess of Malfi*?
- (j) What role does Lucifer play in the play, *Dr. Faustus*?

(3)

3. Answer any four of the following : $5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) Analyze the role of Good Angel and Bad Angel in shaping Faustus's decision. Can they be called external forces or voices of inner conflict?
- (b) Discuss the role of time in the play, *Dr. Faustus*. How does passage of time affect Faustus's fate?
- (c) Discuss the theme of mercy with reference to Portia's speech in the 'court scene'.
- (d) Explain how justice and mercy are critically examined in the play, *The Merchant of Venice*.
- (e) Discuss the significance of the 'proviso scene' in revealing the attitudes toward marriage and individual freedom.
- (f) Discuss the importance of social manners and etiquette in shaping the action of the play, *The Way of the World*.
- (g) Discuss the role of imagery in the play, *The Duchess of Malfi*.
- (h) Analyze the tragic elements that make the Duchess a tragic character.

4. Answer any *two* of the following : 10×2=20

(a) How does Shakespeare use impersonation as a dramatic device in *The Merchant of Venice* to resolve conflict?

(b) How does Mephistophilis function as both a tempter and a tragic character in the play?

(c) Critically examine Shylock's seminal speech 'Hath not a Jew eyes?'.

(d) Analyze the theme of corruption and moral decay in *The Duchess of Malfi*. How is it reflected through different characters?

(e) Examine how the gender roles and power dynamics are portrayed in the play, *The Way of the World*.

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