

2017
ENGLISH
Paper : 0404

MODERN EUROPEAN DRAMA

Full Marks: 80
Time: 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer any three of the following questions: 12X3=36
- a. Explore the symbolism of 'blood' in Lorca's *Blood Wedding*.
 - b. Do you think that Brecht's *Mother Courage and Her Children* offers a critical commentary on the convention of monumental historiography? Justify your position with illustrations from the text.
 - c. What do you think to be the reasons behind the problematic family relations in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*? Explain with reference to textual evidence.
 - d. How does the idea of pretensions and make-belief pervade the entirety of Ionesco's *The Chairs* and problematise the very relationship between existence and meaning? Discuss critically.
 - e. "Pirandello's *Six Characters in Search of an Author* does not offer us a story but a story of a story of stories." Do you agree to this proposition? Justify your position with proper arguments.

2. Answer any three of the following questions: $8 \times 3 = 24$
- a. Write a note on the significance of the songs and dance in Lorca's *Blood Wedding*.
 - b. Write a critical note on the significance of the title *A Doll's House*.
 - c. Don't you think that the activities of the old couple many at times do destabilize the very notion of love and fidelity on which they claim to have solid ground of their long relationship in Ionesco's *The Chairs*? How does this realisation contribute to the thematic development of the play?
 - d. Critically assess the significance of Father's question to the Producer "Who are you?" in Pirandello's *Six Characters in Search of an Author*.
3. Write short notes (any four): $5 \times 4 = 20$
- a. Significance of the lullaby sung by Leonardo's wife and Leonardo's mother in law in *Blood Wedding*.
 - b. Mother Courage's attitude towards war.
 - c. Stagecraft in *A Doll's House*
 - d. The Old Man as an 'orphan' in Ionesco's *The Chairs*
 - e. The appearance of Madam Pace in *Six Characters in Search of an Author*.
 - f. The stage in *Waiting for Godot*
