

Seat No. : _____

MA-17
ENGLISH Paper IV(C)
Shakespeare's Comedies

Time : 3 Hours]

[Total Marks : 100

1. (a) In Romantic Comedy Shakespeare fully satisfies the Elizabethan aesthetic demand for a drama which would gratify both the romantic and the comic instincts of its audience. Discuss. **(10)**

OR

- (b) Write a critical note on Shakespeare's festive comedy.

2. (a) The essential characteristic of a problem play is that it presents a perplexing and distressing complication of human life with high seriousness. Comment. **(10)**

OR

- (b) Discuss the salient features of Shakespeare's last plays.

3. (a) The courtly characters of Love's Labours Lost are not made into convincing individuals, but are shallow and lightly sketched. Discuss. **(10)**

OR

- (b) In Love's Labours Lost, Shakespeare views learning and love with an admiring but ironic eye. Discuss.

4. (a) A silvery undertone of sadness makes Twelfth Night perhaps the loveliest of Shakespeare's high comedies. Comment. **(10)**

OR

- (b) Evaluate the character of Viola.

5. (a) A Midsummer Night's Dream is a comedy whose interest depends on confusions, cross-purposes and a beautiful setting. Discuss. **(10)**

OR

- (b) Shakespeare's treatment of fairies in A Midsummer Night's Dream suggests mirth, goodwill and some harmless mischief. Illustrate.

6. (a) As You Like It is the sweetest and happiest of all Shakespeare's comedies. Discuss. (10)

OR

- (b) Draw a pen-picture of Rosalind.

7. (a) Measure for Measure is a dark play in its focus on evil and its seemingly cynical attitude towards two basic human concerns, sex and the ordering of society. Comment. (10)

OR

- (b) The low-life characters in Measure for Measure are in the play not only to make us laugh; they have many serious functions. Discuss.

8. (a) The Winter's Tale is a story of moral resurrection, forgiveness and reconciliation. Discuss. (10)

OR

- (b) Evaluate The Winter's Tale as a romance.

9. Show your acquaintance with any **four** of the following : (20)

- (1) Volpone
 - (2) Troilus and Cressida
 - (3) The Comedy of Errors
 - (4) Every Man in his Humour
 - (5) Cymbeline
 - (6) Taming of the Shrew
 - (7) Two Gentlemen of Verona
 - (8) Much Ado About Nothing
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