



WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY

B.A. Honours Part-III Examination, 2019

ENGLISH

PAPER-ENGA-VI



Time Allotted: 4 Hours

Full Marks: 100

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.  
Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.*

GROUP-A

1. Answer any **four** questions from the following: 5×4 = 20
- (a) How would you define a well-made play? Answer with reference to any one playwright.
  - (b) Comment on the contribution of Bertolt Brecht to Modern Theatre.
  - (c) Discuss the characteristic features of the "Theatre of Cruelty".
  - (d) Briefly comment on the revival of poetic drama in the 20th century.
  - (e) Discuss the contribution of the "Angry Young Men" to English drama.
  - (f) Write a note on the contribution of Edward Bond *or* Eugene Ionesco in the field of drama.

GROUP-B

2. Answer any **three** questions from the following in about 500 words each: 15×3 = 45
- (a) Would you consider Shaw's *Major Barbara* as a problem play or a comedy? Justify with reference to the text.
- OR**
- (b) Analyze and critically comment on the character of Major Barbara.
  - (c) Would you regard Maurya as a tragic protagonist or a pathetic figure in *Riders to the Sea*? Give reasons for your answer.
- OR**
- (d) Write a critical note on the classical and pagan elements in *Riders to the Sea*.
  - (e) Comment on the meaning, context and significance of the title of Pinter's *The Birthday Party*.
- OR**
- (f) How far is *The Birthday Party* a critique of society? Discuss.

GROUP-C

3. Locate and annotate any **three** of the following in about 200 words each: 5×3 = 15
- (a) "Like all young men, you greatly exaggerate the difference between one young woman and another".
- OR**
- (b) "To give arms to all men who offer an honest price for them, without respect of persons or principles...".

(c) “ ‘Herself does be saying prayers half through the night, and the Almighty God won’t leave her destitute’, says he, ‘with no son living’.”

OR

(d) “Isn’t it a hard and cruel man won’t hear a word from an old woman, and she holding him from the sea?”

(e) “Oh Stan, that’s a lovely room. I’ve had some lovely afternoons in that room.”

OR

(f) “Let’s finish and go. Let’s get it over and go. Get the thing done. Let’s finish the bloody thing. Let’s get the thing done and go”.

#### GROUP-D

4. Write the substance and critical appreciation of any *one* from the following: 10+10

(a) The sea, flattened down in the heavier gusts, would uprise and overwhelm both ends of the Nan-Shan in snowy rushes of foam, expanding wide, beyond both rails, into the night. And on this dazzling sheet, spread under the blackness of the clouds and emitting a bluish glow, Captain Mac Whirr could catch a desolate glimpse of a few tiny specks black as ebony, the tops of the hatches, the battened companions, the heads of the covered winches, the foot of a mast. This was all he could see of his ship. Her middle structure, covered by the bridge which bore him, his mate, the closed wheelhouse where a man was steering shut up with the fear of being swept overboard together with the whole thing in one great crash—her middle structure was like a half-tide rock awash upon a coast. It was like an outlying rock with the water boiling up, streaming over, pouring off, beating round—like a rock in the surf to which shipwrecked people cling before they let go—only it rose, it sank, it rolled continuously, without respite and rest, like a rock that should have miraculously struck adrift from a coast and gone wallowing upon the sea. The Nan-Shan was being looted by the storm with a senseless, destructive fury: trysails torn out of the extra gaskets, double-lashed awnings blown away, bridge swept clean, weather-cloths burst, rails twisted, light-screens smashed—and two of the boats had gone already. They had gone unheard and unseen, melting, as it were, in the shock and smother of the wave.

(b) What is divinity if it can come

Only in silent shadows and in dreams?

Shall she not find in comforts of the sun,

In pungent fruit and bright, green wings, or else

In any balm or beauty of the earth,

Things to be cherished like the thought of heaven?

Divinity must live within herself:

Passions of rain, or moods in falling snow;

Grievings in loneliness, or unsubdued

Elations when the forest blooms; gusty

Emotions on wet roads on autumn nights;

All pleasures and all pains, remembering

The bough of summer and the winter branch,

These are the measures destined for her soul.

—x—