

6. Answer TWO of the following question:

(2 × 10 = 20)

(a) Bring out the essential features of Shakespeare's Romantic Comedies.

(b) Discuss how far Shakespeare's history plays are practical.

(c) Discuss how far chance plays a vital role in Shakespeare's plays.

(d) Write an essay on the different themes in Shakespeare's sonnets.

(e) Discuss how far Dr. Johnson's view that "Shakespeare's tragedy seems to be skill" is correct.

6154/N33

OCTOBER 2007

Paper VII — SHAKESPEARE

(For those who joined in July 2003 and after)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 100 marks

SECTION A — (50 marks)

1. Annotate FIVE of the following passages choosing atleast TWO from each group: (5 × 4 = 20)

GROUP A

- (a) This fellow's exceeding honesty
And knows all qualities with a learned spirit
Of human dealings.
- (b) I have lost the immortal part of myself.
and what remains is bestial.
- (c) Cassio I love thee;
But never more be officer of mine.
- (d) Her name, that was as fresh
As Dian's visage, is now begrimed, and black
As mine own face.

- (e) An honourable murderer, if you will;
For nought did I in hate, but all in honour.

GROUP B

- (f) I would I had bestowed that time in the
tongues that I have in fencing, dancing and
bear-baiting.

O! had I but followed the arts!

- (g) O mistress mine, where are you roaming?

O, stay and hear; your true love's coming,

That can sing both high and low

- (h) O! what a deal of scorn looks beautiful

In the contempt and anger of his lip.

- (i) Go, hang yourselves all! you are idle shallow
things; I am not of you element

- (j) Let fancy still my sense in Lethe steep;

If it be thus to dream, still let me sleep!

2. Answer ONE of the following questions:

(1 × 15 = 15)

(a) Consider Desdemona as “a pathetic figure rather than the heroine of a Tragedy”.

(b) Discuss Othello as a love tragedy.

(c) Analyse Iago as Shakespeare's achievement in the art of villainy.

3. Answer ONE of the following questions:

(1 × 15 = 15)

(a) Comment on the use of songs in Twelfth Night.

(b) Describe Twelfth Night as a Romantic comedy.

(c) Discuss how Feste is related to both the comic and the romantic plot in Twelfth Night.

SECTION B — (50 marks)

4. Answer ONE of the following questions:

(1 × 15 = 15)

(a) Analyse the ways in which Richard II can be considered a tragic figure.

(b) How do the political and the private themes interconnect in Richard II?

(c) “Richard is often considered an ‘unkingly ruler’”. Discuss.

5. Answer ONE of the following questions:

(1 × 15 = 15)

(a) Write an essay on the role of the supernatural element in The Tempest.

(b) Describe Caliban in The Tempest as a sensitive beast.

(c) “The play, The Tempest is itself a metaphor”. Discuss.