

B.A. Semester VI (Honours) Examination 2022 (CBCS)

Subject: English

Paper CC XIII: Modern European Drama

Time: 3 hours

Full marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words
as far as practicable.

1. Answer **any ten** of the following questions: 2X10=20
 - a. What does the black cross on Dr. Rank's calling card signify in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*?
 - b. Where is the play *A Doll's House* by Ibsen set? During what holiday is the play set?
 - c. Whose signature did Nora forge in *A Doll's House*? How does Torvald learn about this forgery?
 - d. What does Nora expect Torvald to do when he learns about her forgery in *A Doll's House*?
 - e. What would be the expected benefit of Torvald's new job at the bank in *A Doll's House*?
 - f. What is the last thing the audience hears in *A Doll's House*? What is its significance?
 - g. Why is Vladimir appalled in Act I of *Waiting for Godot*?
 - h. What is the significance of the hats in *Waiting for Godot*?
 - i. Why does Estragon say, "People are bloody ignorant apes" in *Waiting for Godot*?
 - j. What is the significance of the confusion about Pozzo's name and identity in *Waiting for Godot*?
 - k. What is the reaction of Vladimir and Estragon while examining Lucky in *Waiting for Godot*?
 - l. Comment briefly on the significance of Pozzo's vaporizer in *Waiting for Godot*?
 - m. How does Pozzo interpret Lucky's never putting down the bags in *Waiting for Godot*?
 - n. What do Pozzo's references to Greek gods show in *Waiting for Godot*?
 - o. How does Pozzo describe his view of life during his speech about the night in *Waiting for Godot*?

2. Answer **any four** of the following questions: 5x4=20

- a) Helmer tells Nora, “You talk like a child. You don’t know anything of the world you live in.” Comment critically.
- b) The Christmas Tree in *A Doll's House* acts as a representative of Nora herself, and often reflects her mental state. Discuss in brief.
- c) What does the title *A Doll's House* suggest?

- d) “Nothing happens. Nobody comes, nobody goes. It's awful.” Discuss the context of the given lines from Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot*.
- e) Illustrate critically how the fortunes of Lucky and Pozzo are reversed in Act II of *Waiting for Godot*.
- f) Examine briefly the setting of the play *Waiting for Godot*.

3. Answer **any two** of the following questions:

10x2=20

- a) *A Doll's House* critiques late 19th century middle-class values. Elaborate.
- b) Examine critically how the treatment of memory and minimal speech by Beckett signifies the existential angst of Vladimir and Estragon.
- c) Discuss the significance of the subtitle of *Waiting for Godot*.
- d) (i) Write a note on how Ionesco experiments on treatment of love in the face of absurdity in *Rhinoceros*.
Or,
(ii) Discuss critically the themes of greed, capitalism and corruption in Brecht’s *The Good Woman of Szechwan*.