



**WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY**

B.A. Honours Part-III Examination, 2021

**ENGLISH**

**PAPER: ENGA-VI**

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

*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 *two* questions from the following: 5×2 = 10
- What is meant by 'drama of ideas'? Discuss with reference to any one exponent by this form.
  - What contribution did W.B. Yeats and Lady Gregory make towards the establishment of Irish theatre?
  - What do you understand by Epic Theatre? Discuss its characteristics in brief with elucidations from one or two representative plays of this genre.
  - Write a short note on Naturalistic theatre.
  - Discuss in brief the Theatre of the Absurd and give suitable examples.
  - Discuss the role of John Galsworthy in the development of British Theatre.

**GROUP-B**

2. Answer any *one* question from the following in about 500 words each: 15×1 = 15
- Critically examine Barbara's rebellion against traditional feminine roles in *Major Barbara*.
  - Comment on the theme of idealism and disillusionment in *Major Barbara*.
  - Analyse the role of the Sea in Synge's *Riders to the Sea*.
  - How does Synge blend the natural with the supernatural in his play *Riders to the Sea*?
  - Discuss Pinter's art of characterization with reference to Stanley in his play *The Birthday Party*.
  - Comment on Pinter's use of language and silence in *The Birthday Party*.

**GROUP-C**

3. Locate and annotate any *two* from the following in about 200 words each: 5×2 = 10
- (a) “Excuse me: is there any place in your religion for honour, justice, truth, love, mercy and so forth?”
  - (b) “This is my father, Mrs. Baines [Undershaft comes from the table, taking his hat off with marked civility]. Try what you can do with him. He won’t listen to me, because he remembers what a fool I was when I was a baby.”
  - (c) “It’s the life of a young man to be going on the sea, and who would listen to an old woman with one thing and she saying it over?”
  - (d) “I’ll have no call now to be going down and getting Holy Water in the dark nights after Samhain, and I won’t care what way the sea is when the other women will be keening”.
  - (e) “I love that country and I admire and trust its people. I trust them. They respect the truth and they have a sense of humour.”
  - (f) A little Austin, tea in Fullers, a library book from Boots, and I’m satisfied.

**GROUP-D**

4. Write the substance and critical appreciation of any *one* from the following: 7½+7½

(a) Hope was but a timid friend—  
She sat without my grated den  
Watching how my fate would tend  
Even as selfish-hearted men.

She was cruel in her fear,  
Through the bars, on dreary day,  
I looked out to see her there  
And she turned her face away!

Like a false guard false watch keeping  
Still in strife she whispered peace;  
She would sing while I was weeping,  
If I listened, she would cease.

False she was, and unrelenting.  
When my last joys strewed the ground  
Even Sorrow save repenting  
Those sad relics scattered round;

Hope— whose whisper would have given  
Balm to all that frenzied pain—  
Stretched her wings and soared to heaven;  
Went—and ne’er returned again!

- (b) 'Realism' is one of the vaguest terms in the vocabulary of criticism, but that does not prevent its frequent use. It is curious, however, to observe that it has never been the accepted level of a school of painting. The word has, perhaps, most exactitude in philosophy, where, either as historically the opposite to nominalism or, more generally, as a name for a certain theory of knowledge, it indicates a belief in the objective reality of the external world. Literary criticism, no doubt, first borrowed the term from philosophy, and immediately the use of it became inexact. A realistic writer is one who professes to avoid any selective bias in his transcription of life, giving us the scene or the character as the eye sees it. But actually, as all art involves selection (if only for reasons of space and economy), the realistic writer is generally one who emphasizes a certain aspect of life, that being the one least flattering to human dignity.

Art criticism is still further removed from philosophical exactitude, being in its origin and development but an extension to art of the categories of literary criticism. The kind of art which we might strictly call realistic would be one that tried every means to represent the exact appearance of objects, and such an art, like a realistic philosophy would be based on a simple faith in the objective existence of things. The Impressionism of the nineteenth century was such an art, but actually the impressionist united a scientific realism of method with a somewhat idealistic view of life which might be described as lyricism.

**N.B. :** *Students have to complete submission of their Answer Scripts through E-mail / Whatsapp to their own respective colleges on the same day / date of examination within 1 hour after end of exam. University / College authorities will not be held responsible for wrong submission (at in proper address). Students are strongly advised not to submit multiple copies of the same answer script.*

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