



DATE: 28-10-2019

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BANGALORE- 27

I Sem- B.A/ B.Sc/B.S.W/ B.Com

**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION: OCTOBER 2019
AE-114 -ADDITIONAL ENGLISH**

TIME: 2 1/2 Hours

Max marks- 70

(Please attach the question paper along with the answer script)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This paper contains **TWO** printed pages.
2. You will lose marks for exceeding word limits.
3. You are allowed to use a dictionary during the examination.

I Read the following excerpt from, Britannica, "Literary Criticism on Understanding William Shakespeare"

Feminist and gender-study approaches to Shakespeare criticism made significant gains after 1980. Feminists, were now interested in contextualizing Shakespeare's writings rather than subjecting them to textual analysis. Turning to anthropologists such as Claude Lévi-Strauss, feminist critics illuminated the extent to which Shakespeare inhabited a patriarchal world dominated by men and fathers, in which women were essentially the means of exchange in power relationships among those men. Feminist criticism is deeply interested in marriage and courtship customs, gender relations, and family structures. Plays and poems dealing with domestic strife (such as Shakespeare's *The Rape of Lucrece*) take on a new centrality in this criticism. Diaries, marriage-counselling manuals, and other such documents become important to feminist study. Revealing patterns emerge in Shakespeare's plays as to male insecurities about women, men's need to dominate and possess women, their fears of growing old, and the like. *Much Ado about Nothing* can be seen as about men's fears of being cuckolded; *Othello* treats the same male weakness with deeply tragic consequences. The tragedy in *Romeo and Juliet* depends in part on Romeo's sensitivity to peer pressure that seemingly obliges him to kill Tybalt and thus choose macho loyalties over the more gentle and forgiving model of behaviour he has learned from Juliet.

I A. Answer the following questions in 150 words. (4x10=40)

1. "A patriarchal world dominated by men and fathers, in which women were essentially the means of exchange in power relationships among those men". Shakespeare was widely criticized for favouring patriarchy . From the reading

of Shakespeare's plays, how true is this statement?. Pick any character from the texts that you have read to validate your answer.

2. It is quoted, "Marriages were the result of socially and economically oriented environments". Examine the institution of marriage constituted in, *The Tempest* and *The Merchant of Venice* and comment on how it looked at the socially acceptable norms set by the society?
3. How has Shakespeare portrayed both the political as well as power struggles in all the plays?
4. "Diaries, marriage-counseling manuals, and other such documents become important to feminist study". Do you consider the plays by Shakespeare spoke about women empowerment or is it a mere subjection of the gender?

I B. Answer any TWO following questions in about 100 words. (3x5=15)

1. "Don Quixote's beliefs regarding chivalry are completely insane and comical. I believe that Cervantes was pointing out just how silly the established belief of women being lesser than men actually is". By portraying Don Quixote in such light, did Cervantes aim at making fun of the existing beliefs about chivalry, loyalty and gender?
2. Why did Shakespeare emphasize on the connection between the supernatural and human beings in his works, especially *Tempest* as well as *A Midsummer Night's Dream*?
3. How does Homer portray the relationship between gods and humans in both the epics? Do you think it is necessary to include immortal elements in a work to catch the attention of the reader?

II A. Even though *Le Morte De' Arthur* was widely acknowledged in the literary circle, Malory was criticized for having created one-dimensional characters who exist merely to serve the demands of the plot. From your reading of the text do you also agree to the same statement? Respond in 200 words. (1x15=15)