

**M.A. 4<sup>th</sup> SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS, 2021**

**ENGLISH**

**Course Code: ENG 405ME(E)**

**Course ID:40355**

**(Post 1950s British Literature I)**

**Full Marks: 40**

**Time: 2 Hours**

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

*Answer all the questions.*

**UNIT I**

**1. Answer *any one* of the following questions: (1×12=12)**

- a) Assess the character of Stanley with reference to *The Birthday Party*. Is he a victim of bourgeois conformity?
- b) Discuss Pinter's portrayal of women characters in *The Birthday Party*.
- c) Critically discuss the significance of the title of Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*.
- d) Discuss the role of the Player in Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*.

**UNIT II**

**2. Answer *any one* of the following questions: (1×12=12)**

- a) Do you consider Larkin's "Ambulances" as something more than a plain meditation on death? Elucidate with reference to the text.
- b) Heaney's "Death of a Naturalist" shows an ambivalent attitude towards nature. Discuss with reference to the text.
- c) Why does the Crow indulge in a 'prank' in Ted Hughes' "A Childish Prank"? Critically comment.
- d) Why does Ted Hughes's project the Crow as white initially in "Crow's Fall"? Discuss.

### UNIT III

3. Answer *any four* of the following short questions:

(4×4=16)

- a) Comment on the drum symbol in *The Birthday Party*.
- b) Comment on the ending of *The Birthday Party*.
- c) Comment on the role of the meta-play 'The Mousetrap'.
- d) Comment on coin flipping in Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*.
- e) 'They whisper at their own distress' – Briefly explain with reference to Larkin's "Ambulances".
- f) 'Poised like mud grenades' – Who are described thus and why?
- g) Why does the crow laugh in "A Childish Prank"?
- h) Write a short note on the significance of the 'pike' in Hughes's poem prescribed in your syllabus.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX