

P.G. Semester-IV Examination, 2023**ENGLISH**

Course ID : 40355

Course Code : ENG 405ME(E)

Course Title : Post 1950s British Literature I

Time : 2 Hours

Full Marks : 40

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.**Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.**Answer all the questions.***UNIT-I**1. Answer any **one** of the following questions:

1×12=12

- a) *The Birthday Party* can be read as a metaphor for political encroachment on the individual's rights and freedom. — Discuss with close reference to the text.
- b) Critically explore Pinter's portrayal of women characters in *The Birthday Party*. Are they mere victims of male chauvinism?
- c) Critically explore the metatheatrical premises of Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*.

[Turn over]

- d) How is death represented in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*?

UNIT-II2. Answer any **one** of the following questions:

1×12=12

- a) Why does Ted Hughes bring in the concept of childishness in 'A Childish Prank'?
- b) Discuss how in 'Pike' Ted Hughes uses a fish as a symbol to study the processes of the human mind and the primordial.
- c) What does the speaker see below from "upon a hill" and what conclusions does he arrive at in 'A Map of the City'?
- d) How does the speaker in Thom Gunn's 'Street Song' offer himself as a guide to explore America?

UNIT-III3. Answer any **four** of the following short questions:

4×4=16

- a) Why did Meg claim that she was "the belle of the ball" at the end of *The Birthday Party*?
- b) Comment on the symbolic significance of the boy's drum.

- c) Why do Rosencrantz and Guildenstern keep on tossing a coin at the beginning of the play?
 - d) "Guildenstern: Words, words. They're all we have to go on." — Contextualise and comment critically.
 - e) How does the crow retaliate in the poem 'Crow's Fall'?
 - f) What do you understand by the term "inert" in 'A Childish Prank'?
 - g) What is the "Endless potentiality" that the speaker in Thom Gunn's 'A Map of the City' refers to?
 - h) "Your head will cut out from your hair". — Briefly explain the head motif in Thom Gunn's 'Street Song'.
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