



LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION - ENGLISH LITERATURE

FOURTH SEMESTER – APRIL 2013

EL 4811 - SHAKESPEARE - CONTEMPORARY INTERPRETATION

Date : 25/04/2013

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

Time : 1:00 - 4:00

I Critically comment on the following passages in about 30 words each: (10x2=20)

1. Fair is foul and foul is fair,
Hover through the fog and filthy air.
2. All hail Macbeth, hail to thee, Thane of Glamis.
All hail Macbeth, hail to thee Thane of Cawdor.
3. The Lord's anointed temple and stole thence
The life o'th' building.
4. From forth the fatal loins of these two foes
A pair of star crossed lovers take their life.
5. Love is a smoke made with fume of sighs,
Being purged, a fire sparkling in lover's eyes.
Being vexed, a sea nourished with loving tears.
6. Poor souls, they perish'd.
Had I been any god of power, I would
Have sunk the sea within the earth or ere
It should the good ship so have swallow'd and
The fraughting souls within her.
7. I pray thee, mark me.
I, thus neglecting worldly ends, all dedicated
To closeness and the bettering of my mind
8. This island's mine, by Sycorax my mother,
Which thou takest from me.
9. Rude am I in my speech,
And little bless'd with the soft phrase of peace:
For since these arms of mine had seven years' pith,
Till now some nine moons wasted...

10. My heart's subdued
Even to the very quality of my lord:
I saw Othello's visage in his mind,

II Answer any FIVE of the following in about 200 words: (5x8=40)

1. Do you agree that Shakespeare takes liberties with historical facts in his History plays? What dramatic purpose is it meant to serve?
2. Consider the equation between Katherine and her husband as a comment on conventional marriage.
3. Discuss the importance of the knocking at the gates in *Macbeth*.
4. What role does the nurse play in *Romeo and Juliet*?
5. Discuss the characteristics of Shakespeare's History plays.
6. Comment on the fairytale element in 'The Tempest'
7. Explain the use of imagery in Shakespeare's romantic comedies.
8. Examine the portrayal of women in Shakespeare's plays.

III Answer any TWO of the following in about 300 words: (2x20=40)

1. Show how *Romeo and Juliet* caters to the tastes of every section of the audience.
2. Do you agree that the witches are only external manifestations of the darkness in Macbeth's heart? Explore.
3. Critically analyze the play *The Tempest* from a post-colonial perspective.
4. Discuss the play *Othello* from a feminist standpoint.
