 LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

**M.A.** DEGREE EXAMINATION - **ENGLISH LITERATURE**

THIRD SEMESTER – NOVEMBER 2012

# EL 3804 - DRAMA (BRITISH & AMERICAN) FROM 1900

Date : 03/11/2012 Dept. No. Max. : 100 Marks

Time : 9:00 - 12:00

# PART-A

Explain the following with reference to the context and answer the questions given below:

(10x2=20marks)

1. “I have no ammunition…I always carry chocolate instead;”

Explain the context and the message in this statement.

1. “Witty as well as pretty.”

What is the motive behind this compliment?

1. “As for her, she’s a liar, and her fine airs are a cheat;”

Comment on this accusation.

1. ”You know, there’s a lot in your eyes.”

Identify the language game used by the speaker.

1. ”We are taking him to Monty.”

Can this statement be taken at its face value?

1. “Oh, about twenty years ago… there was a man very much like Daddy, and a woman very much like Mommy, who were married to each other……”

Explain the irony in these lines.

1. “Have you called the van people to come and take me away?”

Is the speaker aware of the ensuing eventuality?

1. “I never wanted to be an actor. You forced me on the stage”.

Who is the speaker and why he/she makes this statement?

1. “I forgot all about becoming a nun or concert pianist. All I wanted was to be his wife”.

What aspect of the character of the speaker is brought out here?

1. “At least, I’ve loved you dearly, and done the best I could – under the circumstances”. What best thing has the speaker done under the given circumstances?

**PART- B**

Answer **FIVE** of the following questions choosing not less than two from each section: (5x8=40marks)

**Section-1**

1. Oscar Wilde’s **The Importance of Being Earnest** is a socio-cultural documentary of its times. Discuss with textual evidence.
2. Critically examine the theme and message of Sean O’Casey’s **Juno and** **the Paycock**?
3. How does Stoppard’s **Rosencrantz and Gildernstern are Dead** qualify as aphilosophical play.
4. How effectively does Beckett dramatize silence in **Waiting for Godot**.

**Section-2**

15. Explicate the theme of motherhood in **Long Day’s Journey into Night**.

16. Comment on the theme of racial discrimination in **A Raisin in the Sun**?

17. Discuss the significance of the title, **Fences**, as it relates to characters and themes of the play.

18. Arthur Miller’s **Death of a Salesman** isan indictment on American Dream.Illustrate.

**PART- C**

Attempt answers for the following questions in about 300 words each: (2x20=40marks)

19. a) Discuss the Shavian wit on a variety of topics in **Arms and the Man** with textual evidence.

Or

b) Pinter’s **The Birthday Party** is a tragedy with comic elements. Discuss with textualsupport**.**

20. a) What are the major conflicts in O’ Neil’s **Long Day’s Journey into Night?** How, if at all, are they resolved?

(or)

b) For Edward Albee, the American dream seems to be hollow and artificial. Illustrate

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