

DHANAMANJURI UNIVERSITY

BA 5th SEMESTER (Old)

2021

DECEMBER

ENGLISH (Hons)

ENG-305

20TH CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE

Full Mark: 100

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.

1. Answer **any five (5)** of the following questions: 5x12=60
 - a) Discuss the significance of the title of the poem, 'Easter 1916' by W.B. Yeats.
 - b) 'The Hollow Men' has been described as "a moving dirge for the death of the spirit of contemporary humanity." Comment.
 - c) Analyse Ted Hughes' use of the animal imagery of the fox as a trope for the poetic impulse in the poem, 'The Thought Fox'.
 - d) Critically examine the treatment of war in Wilfred Owen's poem, 'Strange Meeting'.
 - e) Shaw's female characters are often described as "unwomanly women". Critically analyse the characters of Raina Petkoff and Louka in the light of this statement.
 - f) Discuss Harold Pinter's, *The Birthday Party* as a Comedy of Menace.
 - g) "When I sit down to write a book, I do not say to myself, 'I am going to produce a work of art.' I write it because there is some lie that I want to expose, some fact to which I want to draw attention, and my initial concern is to get a hearing." In the light of this statement, critically analyse the theme of the novel *Animal Farm*.

2. Explain with reference to the context **any four (4)** of the following : 4x7=28
 - a) 'Twas not until the gods had been
Kindly entreated, and been brought within
Unto the hearth of their heart's home
That they might do this wonder thing;

 - b) He was found by the Bureau of Statistics to be
One against whom there was no official complaint,
And all the reports on his conduct agree
That, in the modern sense of an old-fashioned word, he was a saint,
For in everything he did he served the Greater Community.

 - c) "Soldiering, my dear madam, is the coward's art of attacking mercilessly when you are strong, and keeping out of harm's way when you are weak."

- d) “What is this terror? What is this ecstasy? he thought to himself. What is it that fills me with this extraordinary excitement? It is Clarissa, he said. For there she was.”
- e) Watching from a bluff the tiny, clear
Sparkling armada of promises draw near.
How slow they are! And how much time they waste,
Refusing to make haste!
- f) “Only old Benjamin professed to remember every detail of his life and to know that things never had been, nor ever could be much better or much worse- hunger, hardship, and disappointment being, so he said, the unalterable law of life.”
Comment.

3. Answer the following questions:

3x4=12

- a) Why are her parties so important for Clarissa?
- b) Describe the hardships experienced by the Magi on their journey.
- c) Comment on the significance of the ‘Drum’ in *The Birthday Party*.
