



‘समानो मन्त्रः समितिः समानी’

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

MDC 2nd Semester Examination, 2024

UPOBMDC12023-UNDERSTANDING SHAKESPEARE AND TAGORE

Time Allotted: 2 Hours 30 Minutes

Full Marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

UNIT I: Understanding Shakespeare

(A) DRAMA

1. Answer any *five* from the following questions: 4×5 = 20
- (a) Who was Caliban? Why did he own Prospero a grudge?
 - (b) When did Prospero decide to give up his magical powers and why?
 - (c) Why did Oliver think of destroying Orlando? Who saved Orlando and helped him escape? Where did they go?
 - (d) Why did Celia suggest that they should go in disguise? How did Celia and Rosalind disguise themselves?
 - (e) Who was Shylock? Why was he hated in Venice?
 - (f) Who was Bassanio? What was his relation with Antonio?
 - (g) Who was Macbeth? Why was he treated in great esteem at court?
 - (h) How did Lady Macbeth die?
 - (i) What did the ghost of Hamlet's father tell him when they were alone?
 - (j) Who was Ophelia? What made Hamlet neglect her?
2. Answer any *two* from the following questions: 5×2 = 10
- (a) How does Shakespeare immortalize his friend in “sonnet 18”?
 - (b) What does it mean to be “in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes” — Why does the speaker curse his fate?
 - (c) How does the speaker's attitude change upon thinking of his dear friend in sonnet 30?
 - (d) What is the “miracle” in “black ink” referred to in Shakespeare's sonnet 65?
 - (e) “In things right true my heart and eyes have erred,
And to this false plague are they now transferred”.
Explain with reference to the context.
 - (f) Why does the poet call love “cunning” in sonnet 148?

UNIT II: Understanding Tagore

3. Answer any *five* from the following:

6×5 = 30

- (a) How does the relationship between Mini and the Kabuliwala evolve throughout the story?
- (b) How does Mini's father's attitude towards Rahamat change by the end of the story?
- (c) Analyze the central theme of the story "The Postmaster".
- (d) What is the significance of the postmaster's decision of leaving the village? How does it affect Ratan?
- (e) What vision for the future does Tagore offer in "Africa"?
- (f) Examine the role of nature in the poem "Africa".
- (g) What does the conch symbolize in the poem "The Conch" by Rabindranath Tagore?
- (h) What does the golden boat symbolize in the poem "The Golden Boat"?
- (i) Analyze how Tagore uses contrast and juxtaposition in "The Golden Boat".
- (j) When does the poet find the conch lying in the dust?

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