

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2025
Second Year, Second Semester
Department of English
Shakespeare

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer any three questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. (a) Discuss why the First Folio (1623) cannot be considered a foolproof basis for the Shakespeare canon.
OR
(b) Consider in detail the challenges faced by Edmond Malone as an editor and discuss the progress made by him in conceptualizing texts of Shakespeare's plays.
2. Discuss *any four* pieces of external evidence for establishing the chronology of Shakespeare's plays.
3. Discuss with examples how the censorship of stage plays in Shakespeare's England proved to be both restrictive and enabling for the playing companies.
4. Taking the example of Shakespeare's own playing company, write an essay on the constitution of adult playing companies and the performance styles in Shakespeare's time.
5. Discuss with adequate examples how the structure of the open-air theatre in Shakespeare's time influenced the representation of time and space on Shakespeare's stage.
6. Critically comment on how *any two* of the following actors interpreted Shakespearean roles: (i) David Garrick; (ii) John Philip Kemble; (iii) Charles Macready; (iv) Henry Irving.
7. Write an essay on the reception of Shakespeare in Bengali literature of the long nineteenth century.
