

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY  
BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2025  
THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER  
ENGLISH HONOURS  
Renaissance Drama Excluding Shakespeare

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer **any three** of the following questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. How apt is the description of the English Renaissance plays as 'the abstract and brief chronicles of the time'? Justify your answer with a sound theoretical perspective and adequate illustrations.
2. Examine how Marlowe combines awe and disdain at the theatre as 'sights of power', placing sceptical thought at the centre of the theatrical experience in *Tamburlaine the Great, Part One*.
3. 'Kyd's *The Spanish Tragedy* is less the tragedy of Spain and more about the unvoiced resentments that threatened England from within.' Discuss.
4. Analyse the harsh ending of Jonson's *Volpone* as dampening the spirit of satire with a moralistic touch. Do you think this makes the play 'a comic imitation of tragedy'? Justify your answer.
5. Examine Dekker's *The Shoemaker's Holiday* as a fantasy of social harmony and social mobility.
6. Would you describe the satire in Beaumont's *The Knight of the Burning Pestle* as cruel or genial? Give reasons for your answer.

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