

MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2019

First Year First Semester

ENGLISH

Drama: Heroic, Comic, Sentimental

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer *any three* questions. Questions carry equal marks.

1. (a) Comment on the ways in which the notion of masculinity underwent a radical transformation in Restoration comedy.

Or

- (b) How far is it true to say that 1690s Revolution comedy is very different from the gay-couple comedies written during the 1670s?

2. (a) Examine how the comic spirit of *The Rivals* follows from Richard Sheridan's admirable characterization and skilful plot construction.

Or

- (b) Do you agree that Tony Lumpkin is the chief interest and unquestionably the hero of Oliver Goldsmith's *She Stoops to Conquer*? Give reasons for your answer.

3. Examine Richard Steele's *The Conscious Lovers* as a representative specimen of sentimental comedy.

4. *The Rover* was inspired by Thomas Killigrew's *Thomaso*, yet Aphra Behn was careful to introduce important changes. Discuss.

5. (a) Is Dryden's *All for Love* a pure heroic tragedy? Substantiate your answer with suitable textual illustrations.

Or

- (b) Examine the ways in which Thomas Otway's *Venice Preserved* as an adaptation of Shakespeare's *Othello* reconstitutes Othello's relationship between domestic and political concerns.

6. In *The London Merchant*, how does George Lillo ensure that the audience's sympathies always stay centred on George Barnwell despite his crimes? Discuss with reference to the play.