

BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2018
Third Year Fifth Semester (SUPPLEMENTARY)
ENGLISH (HONOURS)
Detailed Study of a Shakespeare Play

Time: Two Hours

Maximum marks: 30

Attempt *any three* questions. All questions carry equal marks. Do not use the same material in more than one answer.

1. a. Taking into consideration the questions of authorship and textual transmission, discuss how and why *The Tragedy of Macbeth* is unusual for a play of the Shakespeare canon.
OR
1. b. How do the connections of James I of England with *Macbeth* help establish a date for the composition of the play? Discuss, with special reference to the contemporary debates on witchcraft.
2. a. Discuss critically *any five* major ways in which *Macbeth* deviates from Holinshed's *Chronicles* and consider how these deviations contribute to Shakespeare's experiments with the form of tragedy.
OR
2. b. Considering in detail *any two* monologues of Macbeth, show how they refer to the *De Casibus* model of tragedy.
3. How do you account for the loquacity and cheekiness of Macduff Junior? Discuss with detailed textual illustrations.
4. Do you agree with Janet Adelman that Lady Macbeth and the Witches reflect in their respective ways the contemporary anxiety about maternal agency? Elucidate, with reference to the early modern medical discourse(s) on the female body.
5. a. Speculating on the staging of *Macbeth* in the Globe Theatre and in a private playhouse, compare the performatory experiences to discuss which would have made for a more artistically satisfying production in Shakespeare's lifetime.
OR
5. b. What kind of treatment did theatre give to the text of *Macbeth* after Shakespeare's death up till the mid-20th century? Consider *any three* significant non-English productions as well in your discussion.
6. Compare and contrast the representation of violence in Orson Welles's and Roman Polanski's film adaptations of *Macbeth*.
7. Attempt a critical survey of the reception of *Macbeth* in colonial India, focusing on the Bengali translations and adaptations of the period.