**ANNAI VAILANKANNI ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLEGE, THANJAVUR**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

**CLASS – I MA ENGLISH**

**SHAKESPEARE**

**UNIT - I : MACBETH**

1. How did the witches greet Macbeth?

 The three witches meet on the heath through which Macbeth passes with Banquo after the battle. They greet him as the Thane of Glains, Thane of Cawdor and the future king of Scotland.

1. What is the effect of the prediction of the witches on Macbeth?

 Macbeth conquers Thane of Cawdor who rebelled against Duncan, the Scottish king. Duncan orders Thane of Cawdor to be executed. As the king is much pleased with the bravery of Macbeth, in order to honour him, he makes him the Thane of Cawdor. As the prediction of the witches comes true so soon, Macbeth is much impressed and he becomes over ambitious and hopes to become the king.

1. Why did Macbeth plan to murder Banquo?

 Macbeth has heard the witches predict that Banquo’s descendants will become kings. After murdering the king, Duncan, Macbeth feels that Banquo is standing on the way of the complete execution of the witches’ prophecy. He asks himself whether he has murdered Duncan and lost his peace of mind for the sake of Banquo’s children. He decides to remove Banquo and his son because it is the only way possible to get peace.

1. Who are Malcolm and Donalbin and why do they run from the country?

 Malcolm and Donalbin are the sons of king Duncan. After the murder of the king, they run away from the country because they are unsafe.

1. Why does king Duncan reach the palace of Macbeth and what happens to him?

 King Duncan reaches the palace of Macbeth to celebrate the victory but there Macbeth murders him with the help of Lady Macbeth. In fact it was the plan of Lady Macbeth to murder the king Duncan.

1. How does Lady Macbeth pacify her husband after the death of king Duncan?

 When Macbeth repents after the death of Duncan again and again Lady Macbeth tells him that he should wash his hands with water and should not repent because he has done a great work.

1. What are the statements about the security of Macbeth, given by the witches?
2. What is the soliloquy and how many soliloquies are there in Macbeth?

 Soliloquy is a speech of a character who speaks about his internal feeling and which no other character can listen to him. There are six important Soliloquies in Macbeth.

1. What is dramatic relief? How it has been used in Macbeth?

 Tragedy when the climax approaches, produces and emotional tension. The dramatist some scenes of human in order to free the viewers from this tension, it sis called dramatic relief. Shakespeare has used it in Macbeth at many places.

1. Macbeth has been termed as a tragedy of ambition. Discuss.

 Macbeth and Lady Macbeth both are the victims of their ambitions and atlast the meet their tragic end. So there is no doubt Macbeth is a tragedy of ambition.

5 MARKS

1. Bring out the significance of the opening scene.
2. How is Macbeth deceived by the prophecy of the witches?
3. Comment on the Banquet scene.
4. Why did Macbeth waver to murder Duncan?
5. Write a note on Lady Macbeth’s sleep walking.

**10 MARKS**

1. Write an essay on the use of supernatural elements in ‘Macbeth’.

Introduction

Witches

Ghosts

Apparitions and Hallucinations

Conclusion

1. Discuss ‘Macbeth’ as a typical Shakespeare tragedy.

Introduction

Tragic Hero

Tragic Flaw

Conflict

Supernatural Elements

Conclusion

1. Trace the evolution of actions in ‘Macbeth’ marking the climax.

Introduction

Beginning

Climax

The End

Conclusion

1. Analyze the character of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth.

Introduction

Macbeth noble nature

Ambitious nature

Imagination

His will power

Lady Macbeth’s courage

Her feminine nature

Lack of imagination

Conclusion

UNIT – II : AS YOU LIKE IT

**5 MARKS**

1. Bring out the significance of the opening scene in ‘As You Like It’.
2. What is the purpose of the song that occur in the play, ‘ As You Like It’.
3. Bring out the significance of the title of the play in ‘As You Like It’.
4. Is the change in the character of Duke Frederick natural?

10 marks

1. Give a critical appreciation of the play, ‘ As You Like It’.

Introduction

Theme

Cheerfulness under adversity

Repentance and reconciliation

The atmosphere of the play

Conclusion

1. What is the place of fools in Shakespeare’s plays? Show the place of Touchstone in ‘As You Like It’.

Introduction

Fools in tragedies

Place of Touchstone

Touchstone’s wit and humour

Conclusion

1. Draw the character sketch of Rosalind.

Introduction

Her personality

Her Feminine traits

Her love for Orlando

Her resourcefulness

Her wit and humour

Conclusion

1. Draw the character sketch of Orlando.

Introduction

Gentle and humble nature

Nobility and sense of humour

Bold and courageous

Love for Rosalind

Wit and Humour

Conclusion

1. Draw the character sketch of Touchstone.

Introduction

His Wisdom

Wit and Humour

His humanity

Conclusion

1. Draw the character sketch of Jacques.

Introduction

Weeping Philosopher

Pessimist

Conclusion

UNIT – III : RICHARD II

 5 marks

1. Discuss the theme of the play ‘Richard II’.
2. Write a note on Machiavellian king.
3. Write a paragraph on the historical plays of Shakespeare.
4. Discuss the importance of the curses and prophecies that appear throughout the play, ‘Richard II’.

10 marks

1. Significance of the opening scene in Richard II.

Introduction

The talent

The role of the King

Portrayal of history

1. Write an essay on tournament scene.

Introduction

The trial

Formalities

The drastic change

To Mowbray he is encouraging

The Judgement

Conclusion

1. Write an essay on Deposition scene.

Introduction

An impressive scene

Outcome of the civil war

Compared to Jesus

Reflection of the dramatists

Pathetic situation

Conclusion

1. Significance of Garden scene.

Introduction

Relief

Role of the Queen

Significance of the garden

Significance

Conclusion

1. Write a note on Richard II as a historical play.

Introduction

Shakespeare’s historical plays

Its historical background

Its historical Significance

Image of medieval life

The Divine Theory

Its Patriotic zeal

Its Tragic Appeal

Conclusion

UNIT – IV : THE TEMPEST

2 MARKS

1. How did Prospero lose his dukedom?

Prospero led the life of medition and study. He had great trust in his brother Antonio. He entrusted his power to his brotherAntonio cheated his brother and banished him.

1. Who is Caliban? How is he called?

 Caliban is the son of old witch Sycorax. He is half-human and half demon. He is called as ‘A freckled whelp hagborn’ means with spotted skin and is no better than a leopard.

1. Who is Gonzalo?

 Gonzalo is one of the sincere Lords at the court of king Alonso. He is known for his loyalty and sympathetic nature.

1. Name the persons who are described as ‘Penitent’. Why?

 Antonio, Alonso and Sebastian are described as penitent. Antonio usurped Prospero’s dukedom. Alonso sinned against Prospero by conspiring with Antonio. Sebastian is also corrupted by Antonio. They are called penitent because they have suffered heavily for their sin.

1. How did Ferdinand meet Miranda?

 Ariel played a magical music to lure Ferdinand to Prospero’s cell. There he meets Mirana.

1. Who is Ferdinand and how he feels about the task?

 Ferdinand is the son of Alonso. He expressed his happiness to toil to any extend if he could get a glimpse of Miranda’s face every day.

1. What is the theme of the play?

 The rare action is in virtue than in vengeance is the theme of the play. Mercy is more valuable than taking vengeance.

1. What is the view of Prospero about life on earth?

 Prospero comments that the entire world is an illusion and the human life is short.

1. Does Ariel get freedom? When?

 At the end Prospero orders Ariel to provide a good weather for them to sail towards Napels to celebrate the wedding of Ferdinand and Miranda. Thereafter he plans to go to Milan to retain his dukedom. After that Ariel will be given complete freedom.

1. What is the vow taken by Prospero at the end?

 Prospero takes the resolution to quit his supernatural powers and to become a good ruler.

5 MARKS

1. Write an explanatory comment on Ferdinand’s speech

“There be some sports are painful,etc.”

1. What is the significance of the game of chess?
2. Discuss the power of supernatural elements in ‘The Tempest’.
3. Discuss that forgiveness and freedom are the motives of ‘The Tempest’.
4. What is the purpose of Phantom banquet?

10 MARKS

1. Write a critical note on the structure and plot-construction of ‘The Tempest’

Introduction

A compact and close-knit structure

Unit of Time

Unit of place

Unit of Action

Supernaturalism in this play

A Miracle of poetry and romance

Conclusion

1. Write about the divine love between Ferdinand and Miranda.

Introduction

The Storm by Prospero

Love at first sight

Ferdinand carrying logs

Miranda’s true love

Prospero’s acceptance

The Masque

Conclusion

1. Write a character sketch on Prospero.

Introduction

The loss of his dukedom

Prospero’s kindness

Prospero’s punishment to Caliban

Prospero’s magical power

Conclusion

1. Sketch the character of Miranda.

Introduction

The qualities of Miranda

Miranda’s kindness

Miranda’s true love

Her cheerfulness

Her love for humanity

Conclusion

UNIT – V : GENERAL SHAKESPEARE

2 MARKS

1. Define the Shakespearean audience.

 The audience is the real patron of the drama and it is the audience who determines the form and spirit of the play. The Elizabethan audience

1. Define stage arrangements.

 The stage was a kind of open tent with two side-doors, one serving for entrance and the other for exit with a small door in-between the two serving the purpose of the inner stage. The strolling theatrical companies carried their simple and crude stage from place to place.

1. Costumes of the actors in Shakespeare period- Define.

 The costumes of the actors were gaudy, rich and expensive. But they were all Elizabethan costumes irrespective of the period and the country where action of the drama was supposed to take place. Costumes were a means of indicating rank and office more than time and place. It was meant to reveal the characters than the settings of the story.

1. Kinds of theatre in Elizabethan period- Explain.

 There were three kinds of Theatres they were public theatres, private theatres and the halls of royal palaces and the Inns court.

1. Fools of Shakespeare – Discuss.

 The fools who play the vital role in Shakespeare’s plays add spice to the comedy by his humour and foolery. In the tragedies the fool provides comic relief as well as he heightens the intensity of the tragic scenes. He relieves the audience from the tragic tension.

1. Clowns in Shakespeare – Explain.

 Shakespeare has used the clown indiscriminately. He is a conscious humours and his role has significant relationship with the theme of the play.

1. Supernatural elements in Shakespearean plays.

 Shakespeare has introduced the supernatural elements only in five of his plays namely ,’A Midsummer Night’s Dream’, ‘The Tempest’ , ‘Macbeth’, ‘Hamlet’ and ‘Julius Caesar’. In

 These plays he has made use of ghosts, apparitions, witches and fairies.

1. Theme of the Shakespearean sonnets.

 Shakespeare gives much importance of friendship. Among only 28 Sonnets are love sonnets. These sonnets address to the dark lady.

1. Shakespeare’s use of soliloquy.

 In his plays Shakespeare uses the soliloquy for many purposes. The soliloquies give the audience better understanding of the character. Through the character’s self-analysis.

1. From where Shakespeare get sources for his poems.

 Shakespeare must have been acquainted with the translations of Petrarch’s sonnets by Wyatt and Surrey. He could have been influenced by Sir Philip Sidney’s, ‘Astrophel and Stella’ and Samuel Daniel’s ‘Delia’. Shakespeare has greatly influenced by Arthur Golding’s translation of Ovids Metamorphoses.

5 Marks

1. Bring out the condition of Shakespeare theatre.
2. Write short notes on Shakespearean audience.
3. Comment on the women in Shakespeare’s plays.
4. Write a note on the theme of Shakespearean sonnets.

10 Marks

1. Explain the uses of soliloquies in Shakespearean plays.

Introduction

Origin

Shakespeare use of Soliloquy

Soliloquy in Shakespearean plays.

Conclusion

1. Analyses the major themes in Shakespearean sonnets.

Introduction

Arrangements

Identity of Mr.W.H. and the Dark Lady

Sources

Theme of the sonnet

Theme of Time

Conclusion

1. Comment on the women in Shakespeare’s plays.

Nature

Womanhood

King Lear

Instinctive nature

Indecisive nature

Behaviour

Hesitating nature

1. Comment on the role of fools and clowns in Shakespearean plays.

Introduction

Origin of Shakespeare’s fools

Function of the fools

Fests

Touchstone

Fool in ‘King Lear

Other Clowns

Comic relief

Conclusion