

M.A. Examination, 2015
Semester – II&IV
English
Paper : 3 (Optional)
(Classical Literature in Translation)
(For Regular and Back Candidates)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value.

Answer *any four* questions.

1. If the *Tractatus Coislinianus* is an Aristotelian discourse on Comedy, is it possible to read it in relation to the *Poetics*? Illustrate your answer with references to plays in the canon of Western drama.
 2. (a) Analyse Aristophanes' *Frogs* as a unique comedy with a double chorus and a double *agon*.

or

(b) How does Dionysus in the *Frogs* qualify as a comic protagonist? Is he merely ridiculous? Discuss critically.
 3. Critically analyse *Oedipus Rex* as being supportive of the Greek notion of the irony of Fate.
 4. "Sappho's poems are some of the earliest instances of the celebration of women's sexuality". Do you agree? Give reasons.
 5. Horace in *Ars Poetica* is regarded by most as being an anti-Platonic and pro-Aristotelian critic. Would you agree? Justify.
 6. (a) Can the hero of the *Aeneid* be considered a political archetype of Augustus Caesar? Give a reasoned answer.

or

(b) Discuss in detail the epic dimensions of Aeneas' journey to the Underworld.
 7. Seneca in *Medea* creates a tragic heroine who is both disgusting and admirable. Discuss, with adequate reference to the play, the complexities of Medea's character.
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