

PG Even Semester Exam, May 2025

English

4th Semester

COURSE NO. ENGCC - 401

**[ENGLISH LITERATURE: THE TWENTIETH
CENTURY (POST 1945)]**

Full Marks : 70

Pass Marks : 28

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the
questions*

Answer all the questions

UNIT-I

1. a. Comment critically on Larkin's ambivalent attitude towards marriage and religion. Discuss with reference to the poems prescribed for you. 10

Or

- b. Critically analyse Ted Hughes's use of animal imagery in his poems.

- b. Would you consider Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* as an Absurd play? Give a well-argued answer.
10. Write a short note on either of the following: 4
- a. Role of Cliff in *Look Back in Anger*.
- b. The conflict between free will and destiny in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*.

2. Write a short note on either of the following: 4
- Theme of Violence in the poetry of Ted Hughes.
 - Existentialist elements in Thom Gunn's poems.

UNIT-II

3. a. Critically discuss how the theme of moral crisis is portrayed in Graham Greene's *The Heart of the Matter*. 10

Or

- Write a detailed note on the Biblical and Classical symbols used in William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*.
4. Write a short note on either of the following: 4
- Title of *Lord of the Flies*.
 - Setting of *The Heart of Matter*.

UNIT-III

5. a. Examine how Sarah systematically subverts male hegemony in John Fowles's *The French Lieutenant's Woman*. 10

Or

- Write a critical essay on the narrative strategy in Doris Lessing's *The Golden Notebook*.

6. Write a short note on either of the following: 4
- Role of the omniscient narrator in *The French Lieutenant's Woman*.
 - The anti-war message in *The Golden Notebook*.

UNIT-IV

7. a. Do you agree to Beckett's view that *Waiting for Godot* is a Tragic-comedy? Give a reasoned answer. 10

Or

- Write a critical essay on Harold Pinter's experiments with form and structure in *The Betrayal*.
8. Write a short note on either of the following: 4
- Significance of the 'messenger boy' in *Waiting for Godot*.
 - Role played by Jerry in Pinter's *Betrayal*.

UNIT-V

9. a. Critically examine the element of intense anger in *Look Back in Anger* situating the play in the context of the Angry Young Men Movement of the 1950s. 10

Or