

**BA.ENG. (H):1<sup>st</sup> Sem.**

**English Drama-I**

**Code: BA.ENG105**

**OBJECTIVE:** To study drama as a form of literature and to inculcate among learners an understanding of the basics of British drama, and to equip them with critical skills.

**QUESTIONS:**

- 1) “Dr. Faustus was a Renaissance man in the medieval times. He asserted his right to explore the forbidden areas of knowledge but ended up as tragic Renaissance hero within the structures of a morality play.” Discuss the above statement with respect to Marlowe’s reputed drama *Doctor Faustus*.
- 2) “Ben Johnson’s *The Alchemist* is a satiric comment on the social conditions of its time, where the alchemy is used as a metaphor.” Discuss this statement in the context of Johnson’s *The Alchemist*.
- 3) “Footing as a mirror to the contemporary society, William Congreve’s *Way of the World* is a text about social criticism in the tradition of Comedy of Manners.” Do you agree? Explain.
- 4) John Webster’s play *The Duchess of Malfi* is a typical example of the ‘revenge play tradition’ of the Jacobean Era. Discuss the above statement in light of Webster’s portrayal of female characters in the play.
- 5) In terms of the core idea of literary works, society experienced a shift from God or Religion-centric texts to man-centric texts where fight between good and bad moved from in-between characters to the inner turmoil of the protagonist. Discuss the given statement in context of any two dramas from your syllabus.

**PROCEDURE:** For completing the assignment students should refer to the books mentioned in syllabus and they can take help from internet. The assignment should be handwritten and properly filled. Students should make assignment in the following manner:

1. Cover page
2. Objectives
3. Index
4. Content
5. Conclusion
6. References

**OUTCOME:** After doing this assignment, students will come to understand the British social and literary history which will enable the students to read and interpret British literature in perspective.

**REFERENCE BOOKS:**

- [1] Sangner, Keith, *The Language of Drama*, Routledge, 2001.
- [2] Bartels, EC. *Critical Essays on Christopher Marlowe*, GK Hall, 1997.