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Acc. No.
Date
Nagaon : Assam

2026

ENGLISH

(Minor)

Paper : ENG4400604MN

(British Drama : Renaissance to the 18th Century)

(Set–B)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ hours

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

1. Answer the following as directed : 1×8=8

(a) Who is the young and beautiful lady Bassanio solicits to marry?

(b) What intensifies Shylock's hatred for Antonio in particular and the Christians as a whole?

(c) Who are the two persons Portia put in charge of her household during her absence?

(d) Which mythological figure the prologue of the play, *Doctor Faustus* alludes to as a comparison to the fatal aspirations of Doctor Faustus?

(e) What do the Cardinal and Ferdinand try to convince the Duchess in the early part of the play, *The Duchess of Malfi*?

(f) Who does Faustus send as messenger to his friends Valdes and Cornelius in Act One of the play after he decides to study necromancy?

(g) The famous 'Proviso Scene' takes place between _____ and Mirabell as they negotiate their marriage terms.
(Mrs. Marwood/Millamant/Foible)
(Fill in the blank with the correct choice)

(h) Lady Wishfort's obsession with 'paint' and her 'closet' rituals symbolize the theme of _____ in restoration society.
(hypocrisy/poverty/religion)
(Fill in the blank with the correct choice)

2. Answer any *six* of the following questions : 2×6=12

(a) Who is Millamant and why is she important in the play, *The Way of the World*?

(b) What kind of society does the play, *The Way of the World* expose?

(c) What grudge Shylock harbours against Antonio?

(d) What is the condition laid down by Portia's dead father in his will?

(e) Who are the two friends of Antonio conversing with him before the appearance of Bassanio in the very first scene of the play, *The Merchant of Venice*?

(Continued)

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(f) What are the advices the Good and the Evil Angel offer to Faustus in their very first appearance before him in Act One of the play, *Doctor Faustus*?

(g) Name the two friends Faustus invites his home in Act One of the play after he decides to study necromancy.

(h) What, according to the advice given by Mephistopheles to Faustus, is the easiest way to call up the spirits of hell?

(i) After she is strangled, the Duchess regains consciousness for a few brief moments. What does Bosola tell her during those moments, and why?

(j) How does Bosola find out that the Cardinal was behind the scheme to kill the Duchess?

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 5×4=20

(a) Write a short note on any *one* of the following : 5

(i) Aside

(ii) Allegory in drama

(iii) Stage direction

(b) Describe, in detail, the hurdles Bassanio overcomes to get the hands of Portia as well as her wealth.

(c) What role does Bosola play in advancing the plot of the play?

(Turn Over)

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(d) How would you describe Ferdinand's relationship with the Duchess?

(e) What is a 'Fop' and how does Witwoud fit in this description?

(f) What is 'wit' in Restoration Comedy? Comment with reference to *The Way of the World.*

(g) Comment on the role of the Good Angel and the Bad Angel in *Doctor Faustus.*

(h) Describe, with some detail, the agreement Doctor Faustus enters into with Lucifer.

4. Answer any *two* of the following questions : 10×2=20

(a) Elaborate on the 'trial scene' in the play, *The Merchant of Venice.*

(b) Shed light on *The Merchant of Venice* as a Shakespearean tragic comedy.

(c) "In this play, marriage is a financial contract rather than a romantic union." Discuss with reference to the 'proviso scene' in the play, *The Way of the World.*

(d) Discuss Doctor Faustus as a tragic hero.

(e) Explore the themes of greed, lust and corruption in the play, *The Duchess of Malfi.*

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