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M.A. (CBCS) DEGREE EXAMINATION,
NOVEMBER 2025.

Fourth Semester

English — Core

Elective — THEATRE ART

(For those who joined in July 2023 onwards)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 75 marks

PART A — (15 × 1 = 15 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

Choose the correct answer:

1. _____ is a primary element of drama.

- (a) Music (b) Dialogue
(c) Painting (d) Sculpture

2. The term "theatre" is most closely related to _____.

- (a) Film (b) Music
(c) Performance (d) Painting

3. Which element of theatre brings the drama to life?

- (a) Dialogue (b) Acting
(c) Set design (d) Lighting

4. Which type of theatre was primarily used for Shakespeare's plays?

- (a) Arena (b) Proscenium
(c) Thrust (d) Globe

5. _____ is a common theme in absurd theatre.

- (a) Family struggles
(b) The search for meaning
(c) Romance
(d) Political conflict

6. _____ is considered the founder of epic theatre.

- (a) Anton Chekhov
(b) Bertolt Brecht
(c) Samuel Beckett
(d) Konstantin Stanislavski

7. Which part of the stage is closest to the audience?
 (a) Downstage (b) Upstage
 (c) Centerstage (d) Offstage
8. A director must maintain balance on stage by arranging what?
 (a) Lighting (b) Actors and props
 (c) Music (d) Costumes
9. _____ is the primary role of a theatre director.
 (a) Writing scripts
 (b) Directing actors and shaping the production
 (c) Designing costumes
 (d) Controlling lighting
10. _____ refers to an actor's body movements that express emotions or intentions.
 (a) Gesture (b) Dialogue
 (c) Costume (d) Proscenium
11. Which component helps define a character's social status, era, and personality?
 (a) Gesture (b) Costume
 (c) Make-up (d) Script

12. _____ is the term for the regulation of content in theatre performances.
 (a) Freedom (b) Censorship
 (c) Rehearsal (d) Projection
13. Expressionist theatre often uses exaggerated acting styles to reflect _____.
 (a) Psychological states
 (b) Social realism
 (c) Historical accuracy
 (d) Natural movement
14. Modern stage design often incorporates _____.
 (a) Digital projections
 (b) Elaborate painted backdrops
 (c) Only physical props
 (d) No visual elements
15. Which theatrical movement opposed realism and sought to depict the inner emotional experience of characters?
 (a) Expressionism (b) Naturalism
 (c) Realism (d) Classicism

PART B — (5 × 4 = 20 marks)

Answer ALL questions by choosing either (a) or (b).
Each answer should not exceed 250 words.

16. (a) Analyze the importance of the audience in drama.

Or

- (b) Discuss how drama reflects societal values, norms and conflicts.

17. (a) Examine the significance of the Globe Theatre in the success of Shakespeare's plays.

Or

- (b) Discuss the function of music in epic theatre.

18. (a) What are the fundamental techniques used by a director to bring a script to life on stage?

Or

- (b) How does a director act as a bridge between the playwright, actors and audience?

19. (a) How does costume design enhance character portrayal in theatre?

Or

- (b) How do masks influence an actor's ability to convey emotion?

20. (a) How has the evolution of stage lighting technology influenced theatre productions?

Or

- (b) Compare minimalist stage design with high-tech immersive stage designs in contemporary theatre.

PART C — (5 × 8 = 40 marks)

Answer ALL questions by choosing either (a) or (b).
Each answer should not exceed 600 words.

21. (a) Analyze how the structure of drama has evolved over time, from ancient Greek tragedies to modern plays.

Or

- (b) Discuss the role of comedy and tragedy in drama as fundamental forms.

22. (a) Explore how Shakespeare's plays influenced and reflected the social, political and cultural issues of Elizabethan England.

Or

- (b) Discuss how time and space are manipulated in absurd theatre.

23. (a) Examine the role of theme and vision in shaping a director's interpretation of a script.

Or

- (b) How does a director effectively demonstrate their vision to actors and the production team?
24. (a) Discuss the role of voice modulation, tone, and pitch in effective stage acting.

Or

- (b) Explain the role of stage make-up in transforming an actor's appearance.
25. (a) Discuss Bertolt Brecht's Epic Theatre as a reaction against the Theatre of Illusion.

Or

- (b) Compare and contrast Expressionist and Symbolist theatre in their approach to storytelling.
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