

BOWEN UNIVERSITY, IWO, OSUN STATE

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

2018/2019 FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

COURSE CODE: ENG 416

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

COURSE TITLE: STUDIES IN SHAKESPEARE

DATE: JANUARY, 2018

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER QUESTION ONE IN SECTION A, AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B. DO NOT USE THE SAME MATERIAL TWICE.

SECTION A

1. Choose ONE of the following speeches and identify the speaker(s), the context and character(s) referred to, as well as the implications of the speech for the characters and the plot of the play. (30 marks)

Either (a) I'll follow you; I'll lead you

About, round,
Through bog, through bush, through bake,
Through brier.
Sometimes a horse I'll be, sometimes a hound,
A hog, a headless bear, sometimes a fire;
And neigh, and bark, and runt, fire, at every burn.

- (b) Come, come, go in with. 'Tis with my mind
As with the tide swell'd up unto his height,
That makes a still stand, running neither way.
Fain would I go to meet the Archbishop,
But many thousand reasons hold me back.
I will resolve for Scotland. There am I
Till time and vantage crave my company.

(c) "Were I the Moor I would

not be Iago
In following him I follow
But myself;

Heaven is my judge, not I
For love and duty,
But seeming so for my
peculiar end.
For when my outward
action doth demonstrate
The native act and figure
Of my heart
In compliment extern, 'tis
not long after
But I will wear my heart
Upon my sleeve
For daws to peck at. I am not what I am."

(d) Nay, their endeavour keeps in the wonted pace;
But there is, sir, an aery of children, little
Eyaes, that cry out on the top of question,
And now the fashion, and so berattle the
Common stages – so they call them – that many
Wearing rapiers are afraid of goose-quills and
Dare scarce come thither.

(e) "You taught me language,
and my profit on't
Is I knew how to curse.
The red plague rid you
For learning me your
Language!"

SECTION B

2. **Either: (a)** There are speculations that most of Shakespeare's love sonnets were written about men, do these speculations have some truth to it? Support your answer with examples from sonnets studied in class. (20 marks)
Or: (b) Discuss extensively four major themes in three of Shakespeare's sonnets. (20 marks)
3. **Either: (a)** With critical reference to ONE of Shakespeare's play, examine the role of play-within-play technique. (20 marks)
Or: (b) "Hamlet was the embodiment of all courtly virtues, the incarnation of gentility as conceived by the Renaissance". Discuss showing familiarity with text. (20 marks)
4. Critically juxtapose "high" (national issues) with "low" (local issues) and discuss their effect on plot structure in ONE of Shakespeare's plays. (20 marks)
5. **Either: (a)** Discuss any of the major issues that were current during the Elizabethan age or Renaissance period by focusing on ONE of Shakespeare's plays. (20 marks)
(b) Write a critical analysis on the social and divine rights of the king with close, critical reference to ONE of Shakespeare's plays. (20 marks)