

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BANGALORE - 27
I SEMESTER B.COM MID SEMESTER TEST - AUGUST 2018 20.8.2018
ADDITIONAL ENGLISH—AE 114

Time: 1 Hour

Max. Marks: 30

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of ONE printed side

You are allowed to use a dictionary

Stick to the word limit and number your answers correctly.

You WILL lose marks for lifting from the passage.

- I. Read the passage below and answer the following in about 200 words. (1x15=15)

William Shakespeare was a jack of all trades. He could do it all – histories, tragedies, comedies, romances. While some people may say that Shakespeare's tragedies are the most popular, his comedies are as popular as the tragedies, if not more. However, comedies of Shakespeare's time are not what people of the twentieth century perceive to be "comedy." Some of the elements of Shakespearean comedy are similar to today's comedy, such as physical comedy. People of Shakespeare's time found the fall Kate took from her horse in *Taming of the Shrew*, and surely people of our time would find that amusing as well. Disguise, cross-dressing and mistaken identity forms the crux of Shakespearean comedies. Throughout the period of the Shakespearean stage, there were many plays that led viewers and critics to question sexual identity and gender roles in not just his plays, but many other plays as well. For early modern England at this time, cross-dressing was looked at as a dramaturgical motif, a theatrical practice, and a social phenomenon. "In Shakespeare's day, a cross-dressed heroine, like any female character also involved a gender switch in the world of the playhouse, for women's roles were normally assigned to young male apprentices called play-boys" (Shapiro, 1). In each of Shakespeare's five plays involving a cross-dressing heroine, he tried something different. He cleverly varied each motif in which each play turned out to have different reactions as well as outcomes.

1. "Disguise, cross-dressing and mistaken identity forms the crux of Shakespearean comedies."- Do you agree to this statement? Justify your answer with suitable illustrations from the text.

- II. Answer any THREE of the following in not more than 100 words each. (3x5=15)

1. Compare and contrast Malvolio and Falstaff.
2. Give a brief character-sketch of Sancho Panza.
3. Would you consider Shylock a pitiable character?
4. What boons does Beaumains ask Arthur?