

## TEST 1

ANSWER ALL

DURATION- 2HRS. 30 minutes

1. Dramatic characters are images of ourselves. Discuss

Dramatic characters are images of ourselves simply means our regular lives is what the actors in stage re-enact. So basically its a mirror image of ourselves, our behaviour, our activities and our lifestyle in the real world. The actor are just impersonator of other people's (characters) live which they bring to stage and show us.

2. Discuss with examples the differences between Extraordinary characters and Modern characters.

**Extraordinary characters** are hero's and heroines from most important dramatic works of the past which are extraordinary in some ways eg. Kings, queens, military offices etc. While **Modern characters** in contemporary plays are rarely Queens or saint instead ordinary people. They can be from the upper, middle or lower class, but their problem and concern reflects those people in everyday life, even though they go to the extreme.

3. Write short notes on the following characters: Contrasting characters, Non-human characters, Minor characters, and Sub-major characters

- **Contrasting characters** : contrasting characters are also called foil characters. They are characters in a play the possesses different trait, its is mostly the protagonist and antagonist that fall under this category. The antagonist is the protagonist chief opponent. Also, in a play characters can be portrayed as contrast, for instance, a rich girl who is very kind loyal and humble will foil to one who is not financially stable nut rude, arrogant and tries to flaunt wealth.

- **Non-human character** : nonhuman are characters that tend to portray dome human characteristics but not enough to be called humans. Take *Animal farm* by George Powell as an example the characters we're animals but their activities and roles were not of animal behaviours but humans. The animals were representation of leader and people in a society.

- **Minor characters**: Minor characters appear briefly in a play. Their role has a significant part to play in a text of frame, they are there to support more important characters. They appear briefly and serve chiefly.

- **Sub-major characters** : These characters are very close to main characters, they support the roles of major character. Looking at *AIfne and Frightened* by Abiodun Macaulay, Tina and George are the main characters while Dr. Mat and Matron are there as sub-major to assist in giving a well informed text.

4. a Define play analysis.

Play analysis can be defined as an explanation of a play is to identify its component, explain their arrangements, deduce the meaning that arises from them and their relation to the whole play.

5. Plot is an important element to understand drama. Discuss

Plot is a literary term used to describe the events that make up a story, or the main part of a story. These events relate to each other in a pattern or a sequence. The structure of a novel depends on the organization of events in the plot of the story.

Plot is known as the foundation of a novel or story, around which the characters and settings are built. It is meant to organize information and events in a logical manner. When writing the plot of a piece of literature, the author has to be careful that it does not dominate the other parts of the story.

A plot is one of the most important parts of a story, and has many different purposes. Firstly, the plot focuses attention on the important characters and their roles in the story. It motivates the characters to affect the story, and connects the events in an orderly manner. The plot creates a desire for the reader to go on reading by absorbing them in the middle of the story, ensuring they want to know what happens next.

a. The plot leads to the climax, but by gradually releasing the story in order to maintain readers' interest. During the plot of a book, a reader gets emotionally involved, connecting with the book, not allowing himself to put the book down. Eventually, the plot reveals the entire story, giving the reader a sense of completion that he has finished the story and reached a conclusion. List and discuss five elements of plot

- Expository
- Rising action
- Climax
- Falling action

**Exposition** : It is also known as **introduction**. The exposition is the beginning of the story and prepares the way for upcoming events. In the exposition, the author introduces the major characters, establishes the setting and reveals major conflicts in the story. The author often discusses the characters' backstory, so readers gain insight as to why characters act or respond as they do.

**Rising Action**: The rising action occurs when the main problem or conflict is addressed with a form of action. The rising action always leads up to the climax. During the rising action, the protagonist often encounters some sort of crisis that creates tension in its audience and excitement in the plot.

**Climax**: It can also be called the **conflict stage**. The climax is the pivotal point in the story when the protagonist deals with the culmination of events. The climax often centers on the protagonist's most difficult challenge. The climax is the most exciting part of the story and initiates a turning point in the characters' lives.

**The falling action**: The falling action occurs immediately after the climax and details the consequences (good or bad) that the characters must deal with after the turning point of events. It leads up to the resolution and sets the stage for the final chapter of the story.

**The Resolution**: The resolution tells us what happens to the characters after the conflict is resolved. All the loose ends are tied up (i.e they are brought together and unified) unless the author plans to write a sequel and purposely leaves room for further plot developments. Some stories have happy endings; others have sad endings. The resolution leaves readers with a sense of closure, so they understand the fate of the protagonists and antagonists

b. Discuss the differences between plot and story

Story is the timeline: the sequence of events in your narrative. The point of a plot is to support a story: to make a story come to life. Plot is what **happens**: the sequence of events inside a story.

**Story** is the full event that goes on in a play. It is a detailed account of everything that goes on in drama, from the beginning to the end. It contains the narrative techniques, the conversation between characters and it is self explanatory. While **Plot** is a sequential arrangement of events in a story. It is like a summary but in form of points. They are significant occurrence of a play, they work if a plot us to guide to writer on how to arrange his storyline, just like an outline.

#### 6. a Define conflict

Conflict in a lame man sense is a strong disagreement or argument between two or more people, it can also be amongst people of a community.

Conflict in a play or in drama is defined as any struggle between opposing forces. Usually, the main character struggles against some other force. This type of conflict is what drives each and every story. Without it, the story would have no point or purpose. There needs to be some struggle in order for the reader to get involved and care about what might happen to the characters. Conflict can be internal or external.

At this point suspense is created in the mind of the reader or audience, thus is what will make them to keep watching or reading, they would want to know what will happen, how the play is going to end, is it a sad or happy ending. Well, that will unfold at the resolution stage. T

#### B. Discuss the major types of conflict

**Internal conflict:** This is a type of conflict that the character faces within his or herself. There are no external forces challenging the person. For example character versus self conflict can be classified under this type of conflict. The character here faces no opposition from the outside but within like trying to overcome fear, or is not healthy and that is preventing the character from achieving his or her dream.

**External conflict :** This is the type when the conflict is an external force like character versus character conflict or character versus society conflict. Character versus character conflict is the most common kind of conflict when the protagonist is in a physical or mental fight with the antagonist.

#### C. Seeing a play and reading a play are different experiences. Discuss.

Seeing a play and reading a play are both different, they require different approaches. Seeing a play is completely theatrical, it contains the necessary element needed to completely understand a play to its root. The music, sound, lightings, expression of the characters and body language is what will give the audience more insight and all these; a book can not give.

Reading a play from a book, on the other hand offers incomplete experience. Because of the incompleteness of the text. The reader makes effort to understand the okay as it will appear in the theatre. The written play is just one part of the theatre.