

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualifications:–

B.A. *B.Sc.*

Scand. Studs. SC5453: The Major Plays of Ibsen

COURSE CODE : **SCAN5453**

UNIT VALUE : **0.50**

DATE : **24-MAY-04**

TIME : **10.00**

TIME ALLOWED : **3 Hours**

Candidates must avoid any duplication of material within this paper, and must not cover the same ground as in an assessed or extended essay.

Answer TWO questions. ALL questions carry equal marks.

1. Compare and contrast Ibsen's treatment of the theme of business corruption in *Pillars of Society* and *John Gabriel Borkman*.
2. The backgrounds of both Nora in *A Doll's House* and Hedda in *Hedda Gabler* have some features in common and both women come to see themselves as unhappily married, yet Nora manages to leave Torvald, while Hedda can only escape through suicide. Why?
3. Discuss the view that 'the central issue in *Ghosts* is not disease but inheritance'.
4. 'The wild duck is an explicit symbol for broken and frustrated lives.' How adequate do you find this description of the role of the duck in *The Wild Duck*?
5. Analyse Ibsen's exploration of the problem of guilt as it manifests itself in EITHER *Rosmersholm* OR *The Master Builder*.
6. Discuss the view that 'the problem with *Little Eyolf* is to know what exactly the play is about'.
7. In relation to *When We Dead Awaken* consider the implications of either heeding or ignoring Ibsen's warning that his plays should not be performed or interpreted symbolically.
8. Analyse Ibsen's treatment of the conflict between courage and cowardice in ANY TWO plays where you think it is a salient theme.
9. Analyse Ibsen's use of the unexpected visitor in ANY TWO OR THREE plays.
10. 'Ibsen was deeply aware of the power of unconscious wishes and desires.' Discuss this statement in relation to ANY ONE OR TWO of his plays.