

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

British Drama

Question Bank

2 marks:

1. Well, my dear fellow, you need not eat as if you were going to eat it all. You behave as if you were married to her already. You are not married to her already, and I don't think you ever will be.
2. Child, you know how anxious your guardian is that you should improve yourself in every way. He laid particular stress on your German, as he was leaving for town yesterday. Indeed, he always lays stress on your German when he is leaving for town.
3. Pretty child! your dress is sadly simple, and your hair seems almost as Nature might have left it. But we can soon alter all that. A thoroughly experienced French maid produces a really marvellous result in a very brief space of time. I remember recommending one to young Lady Lancing, and after three months her own husband did not know her.
4. Thirty-five is a very attractive age. London society is full of women of the very highest birth who have, of their own free choice, remained thirty-five for years. Lady Dumbleton is an instance in point. To my own knowledge she has been thirty-five ever since she arrived at the age of forty, which was many years ago now.
5. Like it! You're like a sexual maniac – only with you it's food. You'll end up in the News of the World, boyo, you wait. James Porter, aged twenty five, was bound over last week after pleading guilty to interfering with a small cabbage and two tins of beans on his way home from the Builder's Arms!
6. The Lady Pusillanimous has been promised a brighter easier world than old Sextus can ever offer her. Hi, Pussey! What sat we get the hell down to the Arena, and maybe feed ourselves to a couple of lions, huh?
7. And you talk as if he were a book or something you pass around to anyone who happens to want it for five minutes. What's the matter with you? You sound as though you were quoting him all the time. I thought you told me once you couldn't bring yourself to believe in him.
8. The injustice of it is almost perfect! The wrong people going hungry, the wrong people being loved, the wrong people dying!
9. Annotate: "My ideal has always been to love someone of the name Ernest."
10. Why is Lady Bracknell described as 'the matriarchal dragon'?
11. Where does Act I of 'Look Back in Anger' open?
12. Annotate: "I hope he rams it up your nostrils."

13. What sort of a play is 'Apple Cart'?
14. Why does Pegeen fall in love with Christy?
15. What makes Agatha express doubt about Amy's hope of the routine life at family home?
16. What do Amy's relations think about the younger generation?
17. I really don't see anything romantic in proposing. It is very romantic to be in love. But there is nothing romantic about a definite proposal. Why, one may be accepted. One usually is, I believe. Then the excitement is all over. The very essence of romance is uncertainty. If ever I get married, I'll certainly try to forget the fact.
18. Your guardian enjoys the best of health, and his gravity of demeanour is especially to be commended in one so comparatively young as he is. I know no one who has a higher sense of duty and responsibility.
19. How absurd to talk of the equality of the sexes! Where questions of self-sacrifice are concerned, men are infinitely beyond us.
20. The plain facts of the case are these. On the morning of the day you mention, a day that is for ever branded on my memory, I prepared as usual to take the baby out in its perambulator. I had also with me a somewhat old, but capacious hand-bag in which I had intended to place the manuscript of a work of fiction that I had written during my few unoccupied hours. In a moment of mental abstraction, for which I never can forgive myself, I deposited the manuscript in the basinette, and placed the baby in the hand-bag.
21. God, how I hate Sundays! It's always so depressing, always the same. We never seem to get any further, do we? Always the same ritual. Reading the papers, drinking tea, ironing. A few more hours, and another week gone. Our youth is slipping away. Do you know that?
22. We knew each other such a short time, everything moved at such a pace, we didn't have much opportunity. And, afterwards, he actually taunted me with my virginity. He was quite angry about it, as I had deceived him in some strange way. He seemed to think an untouched woman would defile him.
23. If you'll stop thinking about yourself for one moment, I'll tell you something I think you ought to know. Your wife is going to have a baby.
24. Don't you understand? It's gone! It's gone! That – that helpless human being inside my body. I thought it was so safe, and secure in there. Nothing could take it from me. It was mine, my responsibility. But it's lost.
25. Annotate: "A most learned man. He has never written a single book – so you can imagine how much he knows."
26. What does the play 'The Importance of Being Ernest' demonstrate?
27. Explain the gulf between Jimmy and Alison as seen in the play 'Look Back in Anger.'
28. What are Jimmy's campaigns that make Alison admire him?
29. What is the King's reply against the charge of overthrowing his son?
30. What is the lament of Pegeen at the end of the play 'The Playboy of the Western World'?
31. Why does Christy attack his father in 'The Playboy'?
32. What do Agatha and others think of Harry?
33. Ignorance is like a delicate exotic fruit; touch it and the bloom is gone

34. I hope you have not been leading a double life, pretending to be wicked and being really good all the time. That would be hypocrisy.”

35. Well, she can talk, can't she? You can talk, can't you? You can express an opinion. Or does the white woman's burden make it impossible to think?

36. Why don't you get my wife to explain it to you? She's educated. (to her.)

That's right, isn't it?

37. I'm wondering how much longer I can go on watching you two tearing the insides out of each other. It looks pretty ugly sometimes.

38.my dear Pam: my father never thought. He didn't know what thought meant. Very few people do, you know.

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40. ...and let me tell you that a republican president has more power than a king because the people know that they need strong man to protect them against the rich.

41. A man who marries without knowing bunbury has a very tedious time of it.”

42. “All women become like their mothers. That is their tragedy. No man does. That's his.”

43. Why don't you leave all that, and sit down for a bit? You look tired.

44. God, how i hate Sundays! It's always so depressing, always the same. We never seem to get any further, do we? Always the same ritual. Reading the papers, drinking tea, ironing, a few more hours, and another week gone.

Our youth is slipping away. Do you know that?

45. Well, I suppose he and I think the same about a lot of things, because we're alike in some ways. We know why. Anyway, he gets on with me because I'm common. Both come from working people, if you like. Oh I know some of his mother's relatives are pretty posh, but he hates them as much as he hates yours.

46. That's democracy; and a splendid thing it is too for putting the right men

in the right place.

47. Talkers are very formidable rivals for popular favor.

48. Our business is to meddle in everybody's business. A prime minister is a busybody by profession.

5 marks:

1. Bring out the encounter between Gwendolen and Cecily in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.
2. Comment on the significance of the bears-and-squirrel game in *Look Back in Anger*.
3. What role does Boanerges play in *The Apple Cart*?
4. How does Pegeen lament at the end of the play *The Playboy of the Western World*?
5. What does the Chorus voice in *The Family Reunion*?
6. How does Cliff show his warm humour in *Look Back in Anger*?
7. Examine the absurdities in the play 'The Importance of Being Earnest.'
8. How does Algernon exploit Jack's incapacity?
9. What transpires in the tender scene involving Alison and Cliff?
10. What does Shaw deal with in the play 'Apple Cart'?
11. What does 'The Playboy of the Western World' highlight?
12. Examine the theme in the play 'The Family Reunion.'
13. Comment on the role of Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.
14. How does Jimmy describe Colonel Redfern in *Look Back in Anger*?
15. Describe the morning session of the Cabinet in *The Apple Cart*.
16. What is Pegeen's lament at the end of the play *The Playboy of the Western World*?
17. What is the irony in the title *The Family Reunion*?
18. What does Cliff represent in *Look Back in Anger*?
19. Write a note on Cecily Cardew as seen in the play 'The Importance of Being Earnest.'
20. Sketch the character of Lady Bracknell in the play.
21. How does Osborne present Amy in the play 'Look Back in Anger'?
22. What is Pegeen's lament at the end of the play 'The play boy of the western world'?
23. Comment on the political acumen of King Magnus in 'The Apple Cart.'
24. What impelled T.S.Eliot to write the play 'The Family Reunion'?
25. Comment on the character of Algernon in *The importance of being earnest*.
26. Discuss the relationship between Jimmy and his wife in *Look Back in Anger*.
27. To what extent is Jimmy's childhood responsible for his present state of mind?
28. Comment on the theme of murder in *Playboy Of The Western World*.
29. Discuss the use of mythology in *Playboy Of The Western World*.
30. Comment on the title *The Family Reunion*.
31. How does the character of Amy in *The Family Reunion* highlight the theme of the play?
32. To what extent is *The Apple Cart* a discussion on democracy?

33. Account for the humor in The importance of being earnest
34. Why is jimmy angry and bitter in Look Back in Anger?
35. Discuss the importance of Helena in the play look back in anger.
36. bring out the theme in The Apple Cart.
37. Discuss the theme of darkness in playboy of the western worlds....
38. Comment on the characterization of old mahon in playboy of the western world.
39. Comment on the Family Reunion as poetic drama

40. Comment on the character of harry monchensey in the Family reunion

10 marks:

1. Discuss the role of Jack Worthing in The Importance of Being Earnest.
2. How far is Jimmy an angry young man in Look Back in Anger?
3. Explain how King Magnus makes the Cabinet withdraw the ultimatum in The Apple Cart.
4. Sketch the character of Christy Mahon in The Playboy of the Western World.
5. Analyse the part played by Amy in The Family Reunion.
6. Comment on the appropriateness of the title Look Back in Anger.
7. Compare and contrast the characters of Cecily and Gwendolen.
8. Consider 'The Importance of Being Ernest' as a satire.
9. Justify the title of the play 'Look Back in Anger.'
10. 'The Apple Cart' is a study in the art of human relationships – Discuss.
11. Sketch the character of Christy Mahon in 'The Playboy of the Western World.'
12. 'The Family Reunion' is a drama of contemporary people speaking contemporary language – Elucidate.
13. Describe how the complications in the play The Importance of Being Earnest are resolved.
14. Examine the theme of alienation and loneliness in Look Back in Anger .
15. How does King Magnus captivate Boanerges in The Apple Cart ?
16. Analyze the role of Christy Mahon in The Playboy of the Western World .
17. How far is Agatha's role as a spiritual guardian successful in The Family Reunion ?
18. How does Jimmy show his anger in Look Back in Anger ?
19. Sketch the character of John Worthing in 'The Importance of Being Ernest.'
20. 'The Importance of Being Ernest' is a farcical comedy – Discuss.
21. Comment on the role of Harry in 'Look Back in Anger.'
22. Examine Shaw as a dramatist with reference to 'The Apple Cart.'
23. Justify the title of the play 'The Playboy of the Western World.'
24. Bring out the features of 'The Family Reunion' as a poetic play.
25. Comment on the character of Algernon in The importance of being earnest
26. Discuss the relationship between jimmy and his wife in Look Back in
27. Anger

28. To what extent is Jimmy's childhood responsible for his present state of mind?
29. Comment on the theme of murder in Playboy Of The Western World
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32. Discuss the use of mythology in Playboy Of The Western World.
33. Comment on the title The Family Reunion
34. How does the character of Amy in The Family Reunion highlight the theme of the play?
35. To what extent is The Apple Cart a discussion on democracy?
36. Comment on The Importance of Being Earnest as a comedy
37. Discuss Look Back In Anger as kitchen sink drama
38. Consider The Apple Cart as satire.
39. Comment on the relevance of the title Playboy of the Western World.
40. Explore aspects of Greek drama in The Family Reunion
41. Discuss aspects of comedy in the The Apple cart.
42. Discuss the theme of marriage in the importance of being earnest.
43. Do you agree that look back in anger reflects the middle class in post war Britain?
44. Discuss aspects of comedy in the apple cart
45. Discuss the importance of mythology in playboy of the western world
46. Explore the theme of guilt in the family reunion.