

This is an Open-Book Take-Home Examination



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UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA, SRI LANKA

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CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

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GENERAL DEGREE EXAMINATION IN ARTS (EXTERNAL) -

EPIC AND THEATRE – GRSE 101  
(NEW SYLLABUS)

The total number of questions in this paper is 06.

Answer question one (01) and select at least one (01) question each from Part I and Part II, and answer a total of Four (04) questions.

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1. Comment on the subject matter of **FOUR (04)** of the following, referring them to their contexts. Do not write more than **TWO (02)** pages per question.
- a) She found Odysseus sitting on the shore. His eyes were wet with weeping, as they always were.
- b) The deep and total trap was now complete;  
The Father sent the gods' fast messenger  
To bring the gift to Epimetheus.
- c) What is the meaning of this loud argument,  
You quarrelsome men? I wonder you are not ashamed,  
In this time of distress, to air your private troubles.  
Come in, my husband; and Creon, you go home.  
You are making much of some unimportant grievance.

- d) Having this shrine of the Nymphs next door is such a plague,  
I reckon there's only one thing for it: pull down my house  
And build another somewhere else. Look at these thieves  
At their sacrifice!
- e) A father's duty then is to train his son to choose the right course of his own free will, not from fear of another: this marks the difference between a father and a tyrant in the home.

(4x5)

### PART I

Do not write more than **FIVE (05)** pages per question

#### 2. EITHER

- (i) "In the *Odyssey*, it is the gods that rule over the mortals." Do you agree with this statement? Give your reasons.

OR

- (ii) Analyze Odysseus as an epic hero by supporting your arguments with examples from Homer's *Odyssey*.

#### 3. EITHER

- (i) Examine the portrayal of the divine beings in Hesiod's *Theogony*.

OR

- (ii) "Hesiod's *Works and Days* is undeniably a didactic poem." Discuss this statement with relevant examples from the poem.

### PART II

4. Evaluate how Oedipus' anger and pride (*hubris*) caused his downfall in Sophocles' *King Oedipus*.
5. Discuss with examples the daily concerns of domestic life that Menander presents in his play, *The Bad Tempered-Man*.
6. Critically explain your views regarding the upbringing of children with reference to Terence's *Brothers*.

(4x20)