

**MOOC**  
**THE RENAISSANCE & SHAKESPEARE**

MCQ  
Week 3  
Full Marks: 10

1. According to Robert H. Bell, “None of the kings in Shakespeare’s ‘Henriad’—*Richard II*, the two parts of *Henry IV*, and *Henry V*—has a court jester, yet fools are everywhere.” The figurative ‘fool’ in the *Henry IV* plays who might have been a sketch for future fools like the gravedigger in *Hamlet*, the porter in *Macbeth* and Edmund in *King Lear* is
  - A. Sir Walter Blunt
  - B. Falstaff
  - C. Hotspur
  - D. Gadshill
  
2. King James VI of Scotland, later James I of England and James VI of Scotland, faced two major conspiracies in his reign: The Gowrie conspiracy and the \_\_\_\_\_. It is important to study both to understand Shakespeare’s complex attitude towards kingship and authority.
  - A. Boston Tea Party
  - B. Ridolfi Plot
  - C. Gunpowder Plot
  - D. Equivocator Plot
  
3. The shame and public humiliation suffered by his two daughters was a theme that Shakespeare had explored in *Othello* where Desdemona’s chastity is questioned by her husband, Othello. Innocent of the crime she is accused of, Desdemona is murdered by her suspicious spouse. However, in the romances like *The Winter’s Tale*, *Pericles* and *Cymbeline*, the young women on trial are rescued by
  - A. Their lovers/husbands
  - B. Mystical and divine intervention
  - C. The judicial system (as in the case of Shakespeare’s daughters)
  - D. Chivalrous knights (as seen in medieval ‘romances’)
  
4. A scan of remains of the last English king killed in battle (Battle of Bosworth Field), the hunchbacked Richard III— recently found, exhumed and reburied in Leicester (England)— showed that apart from the lethal blows, there were signs of post-death injuries inflicted as posthumous revenge— a gruesome reminder of the bloodshed that marks English history. Shakespeare’s history plays also reveal
  - (i) The passionate romances of kings and queens

- (ii) The hypocrisy of the ruling class regarding seemingly the expendable common soldiers
- (iii) The hollow rhetoric of national pride and military heroism employed by the kings, princes and noblemen
- (iv) The redirection of funds for the revelries of the commoners instead of war-efforts
- (v) The unscrupulousness of the royalty

Which of the following is true?

- A. (i) and (iv)
  - B. (i) (iii) and (v)
  - C. (ii) (iii) and (v)
  - D. All of the above
5. Lady Macbeth and the Witches, directly or indirectly, are voices that challenge patriarchy. According to Payal Nagpal, which other significant female character articulates the dismal position of women?
- A. Hecate
  - B. Donalbain
  - C. Duncan
  - D. Lady Macduff
6. The endings of the romances indicate towards an ideal world where women, wrongly accused of crimes, are acquitted as opposed to tragedies where they find no respite from patriarchal tyranny. The interventions that alter the fate of the accused in the romance plays are decidedly
- A. Christian
  - B. Egyptian
  - C. Shinto
  - D. Pagan
7. One of the greatest disadvantages for a dramatist like Shakespeare in his use of history as a source for his plots and character development was
- A. Insufficient/inaccessible sources
  - B. Chronicles necessitating the incorporation of certain facts
  - C. The audience's indifference towards history plays
  - D. Extreme and extensive censorship during Queen Elizabeth I's reign
8. The Liberties were a space for many liberties, apart from theatres. Philip Henslowe decided to let which part of the building remain as it is and built his theatre in the yard?
- A. Foodstall
  - B. Bookstall

- C. Brothel
- D. Dance hall

9. Match the line with the speaker:

- i. Out, damned spot; out I say.
- ii. After life's fitful fever he sleeps well.
- iii. Double, double, toil and trouble
- iv. Good sir, why do you start and seem to fear/ Things that do sound so fair?

- e. Banquo
- f. Lady Macbeth
- g. Macbeth
- h. Witches

- A. i f, ii g, iii h, iv e
- B. i g, ii e, iii h, iv f
- C. i e, ii f, iii g, iv h
- D. i h, ii f, iii e, iv g

10. The Japanese adaptation of *Macbeth* on screen by Akira Kurosawa is called

- A. *Rashomon*
- B. *Ran*
- C. *Throne of Blood*
- D. *The Seventh Seal*