

**NAYAGARH AUTONOMOUS COLLEGE, NAYAGARH**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**  
**SUBJECT: ENGLISH HONS.**  
**PAPER – CC9**

**Q. Answer the following questions (Short Type)**

**6 marks**

1. Write a short note on *Classical Antiquity*.
2. What is "Classical" about *Classical Antiquity*?
3. Briefly explain the rise and decline of the Roman Empire.
4. Mention about the factors that influenced the decline of Greece.
5. How does Odysseus escape Polyphemus?
6. Why does Odysseus kill the suitors?
7. What might be Homer's purpose in having Zeus recall in such detail the story of Agamemnon, Clytemnestra, Aegisthus, and Orestes?
8. What roles do women play in *The Odyssey*? Which women hold the most power?
9. What prophecy does Zeus make concerning Odysseus? How does this affect our reactions in the narrative that follows?
10. Write a short note on Delphic Oracle in *Oedipus the king*.
11. What is Aristotle's theory of art?
12. What are Aristotle's views on mimesis?
13. What does Aristotle mean by "pleasure proper to tragedy" in *Poetics*?
14. Define "unity of time," as defined in Aristotle's *Poetics*.
15. Explain Aristotle's tragic hero?
16. Discuss Aristotle's idea of the tragic plot with special references to peripeteia and anagnorisis.
17. What are some differences in the elements of Greek and modern drama?
18. How does Aristotle explore the relation of poetry and reader/audience through his definition of tragedy?
19. What is meant by the "catharsis of emotions" in Aristotle's *Poetics*?
20. Is Aristotle's *Poetics* a critical text? If yes, then what makes it so?
21. What is the significance of "katharsis" in Aristotle's *Poetics*?
22. Catharsis has been a hot topic amongst scholars for centuries, because they often find it too abstractly emotional. How does Aristotle present catharsis as an element in terms of plot?

**Q. Answer the following questions (Long Type)**

**14 marks**

1. Provide a detailed account of the cultural history of the Greco-Roman world centred on the Mediterranean Sea.

2. At the beginning of *The Odyssey*, we are told that Odysseus suffered much on his long, arduous journey homeward. How much of his suffering was the result of his own choices and how much of it was beyond his control? How are the two to be distinguished?
3. Do you think Odysseus was a good leader? Why or why not?
4. What might be Homer's purpose in having Zeus recall the story of Agamemnon, Clytemnestra, Aegisthus, and Orestes in such detail?
5. Hubris, a Greek word for excessive pride, is one of the downfalls of many characters in works of ancient mythology. Does this apply to *The Odyssey*?
6. How does reading *The Odyssey* affect your thinking about piety? Is Odysseus a pious man? Why or why not? Is there anything about piety that you can learn from *The Odyssey*?
7. How does reading *The Odyssey* affect your thinking about fidelity and faithfulness? Should these to be understood as universal moral and ethical goods? Why or why not?
8. With reference to *Oedipus the king*, discuss the concept of kingship in the Athenian city state.
9. "The world of Oedipus is the playing field of two competing forces; the law of the king and the power of prophecy." Discuss.
10. Discuss *Oedipus the king* as an Aristotelian tragedy with examples from the play.
11. Discuss the themes of sight and blindness in *Oedipus the king*.
12. How does Sophocles use the tragic elements of *hamartia* and *peripetia* in *Oedipus the King*? Illustrate with examples from the Play.
13. With reference to *Oedipus the king*, discuss the causes of tragedy and the element of catharsis in Greek drama.
14. Critically comment on the idea of faith in ancient Greek society with reference to *Oedipus the king*.
15. What are some of the features which distinguish tragedy as Aristotle conceives it from epic?
16. What is meant by "catharsis"? What would prompt the audience to feel pity and what would prompt them to feel terror? Why would the evocation of such emotions constitute a purgation?
17. Explain Aristotle's concept of mimesis. In what way is poetry imitative? Why, according to Aristotle are we naturally disposed toward imitation? Do you agree with his arguments?
18. What are some differences in the elements of Greek and modern drama?
19. What is the difference between how Aristotle sees the poetry and how Plato sees the poetry?
20. With reference to Aristotle's "Poetics," discuss the significance of "Hamartia."