1. (a) “The Theatre of Absurd has renounced arguing about the absurdity of the human condition; it merely presents it in being – that is, in terms of concrete stage images.” Elaborate.

OR

(b) “Harold Pinter brings out the Absurdity through confusion and chaos in The Birthday Party.” Justify.

2. (a) “Modern American Drama successfully analyzes the American Dream of Success.” Elucidate.

OR

(b) Discuss in detail the main theme of the play All My Sons.

3. Write short notes on: (any two)

   (1) The dramatic device of Six Characters in Search of an Author.
   (2) Justify the title Mother Courage.
   (3) Tragicomedy elements in The Cherry Orchard.
   (4) Illusion and Reality in The Balcony.

4. Write the correct option:

   (1) Albert Camus uses the term “The Absurd” in his essay titled “The Myth of Sisyphus” published in the year ______.
      (a) 1961   (b) 1942
      (c) 1960   (d) 1962
(2) Martin Esslin cites the influence of ______ on a particular aspect of Absurd drama.
   (a) Ben Johnson  (b) Thomas Kyd
   (c) Shakespeare  (d) Homer

(3) The Theatre of Absurd is commonly associated with ______.
   (a) Naturalism  (b) Realism
   (c) Existentialism  (d) Modernism

(4) Esslin says, “Absurd is that which is devoid of ______.”
   (a) Life  (b) Purpose
   (c) Happiness  (d) Content

(5) In what season does The Birthday Party take place?
   (a) Spring  (b) Summer
   (c) Winter  (d) Fall

(6) What is the package that Lulu delivers?
   (a) Groceries  (b) A Camera
   (c) Alcohol  (d) A toy drum

(7) The Birthday Party premiered in Cambridge’s Arts Theatre in the year ______.
   (a) 1957  (b) 1955
   (c) 1958  (d) 1951

(8) Harold Pinter celebrated the 50th Year of The Birthday Party in ______ Opera House.
   (a) London  (b) Broadway
   (c) Globe  (d) Lyric

(9) Modern American Drama highlighted the ______ status of the American people.
   (a) Economic  (b) Psychological
   (c) Intellectual  (d) Familial

(10) ______ Morality was challenged by the modern American dramatists.
     (a) Puritan  (b) Catholic
     (c) Religious  (d) Traditional

(11) All My Sons was twice adopted for film; once was in 1948 and next in ______.
     (a) 1947  (b) 1956
     (c) 1987  (d) 1977

(12) ______ play by Henrik Ibsen served as a source for All My Sons.
     (a) The Wild Duck  (b) A Doll’s House
     (c) Ghosts  (d) An Enemy of the People
(13) All My Sons won the New York Drama Critics’ circle award for best play in

(a) 1975  (b) 1947  (c) 1950  (d) 1959

(14) How many years does Chris wait before he proposed to Annie?

(a) 2 years  (b) 3 years  (c) 4 years  (d) 10 years

5. Answer in brief:

1. List atleast five characteristics of The Theatre of Absurd.
2. Briefly discuss Stanley’s relationship with Meg.
3. Write a brief note on the two strangers who come to meet Stanley.
4. List the major Modern American dramatists and also mention at least one of their plays.
5. Briefly discuss the title All My Sons.
6. What does Annie reveal to Larry’s family about his death?
7. Discuss in brief Dr. Jim Bayliss’s discontent with his professional life.