



Lagdu Singh Charitable Trust's (Regd.)
THAKUR PUBLIC SCHOOL

(Affiliated to the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi)

ISO 9001 : 2015 CERTIFIED

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HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION-2020-21

Paper: English Literature

Std.:10

Marks: 80

Date :21.10.2020

Time: 2Hours

Answers to this paper must be written on paper separately.

*You will **not** be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.*

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

*Attempt **five** questions in all. You must attempt **one** question from each of the Sections A, B and C and any **two** other questions.*

The intended marks for questions or parts of a question are given in the brackets. []

Section A [DRAMA]

Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow: -

Question 1

Portia: Lorenzo, I commit into your hands

The husbandry and manage of my house

Until my lord's return: for mine own part,

I have toward heaven breathed a secret vow

To live in prayer and contemplation, ...

- Where does the scene take place? What does Portia mean by 'the husbandry and manage of my house'? [3]
- What responsibilities does Portia give to Lorenzo? Till her husband's return, what would Portia do? [3]
- What in fact was Portia's intention in leaving her home? Why did she need Nerissa to accompany her? [3]
- Why does Portia say that during her absence Lorenzo would not find it difficult to run her house smoothly? [3]
- How does Portia show that she is intelligent and has good management skills? [4]

Question 2

Duke: You hear the learn'd Bellario, what he writes:

And here, I take it, is the doctor come,

[Enter Portia, dressed like a Doctor of Laws]

Give me your hand. Come you from old Bellario?

Portia: I did, my Lord.

Duke: You are welcome: take your place.

Are you acquainted with the difference

That holds this present question in the court?

- a) Where is the scene set? Why was Portia there? [3]
- b) What reason had Bellario given for his absence? Whom had he sent in his stead? [3]
- c) Bellario's letter stated that he had taken some measures to prepare the 'young and learned doctor' to deal with the case. What were they? [3]
- d) What was the 'difference' between Shylock the Jew and Antonio the merchant that the Duke was unable to resolve? [3]
- e) How does Portia succeed in saving Antonio? What does this reveal of her character? [4]

Question 3

Portia: I see, sir, you are liberal in offers

You taught me first to beg; and now methinks

You teach me how a beggar should be answer'd

- a) Who is Portia speaking to? Where is she at present? To whom does the term 'beggar' refer to in the above extract? [3]
- b) What did the person spoken to offer Portia as payment for her services in the beginning? Which two things did Portia ask as token of remembrance? [3]
- c) What was Portia's initial reply to Bassanio's offer? [3]
- d) Explain in detail the reaction of the person spoken to when Portia expressed her desire. What reason did he give to Portia regarding his reaction? [3]
- e) What was the real reason behind the reaction of the person spoken to? What did he offer Portia instead? [4]

SECTION B [POETRY]

Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow: -

Question 4

All round the field spectators were gathered
Cheering on all the young women and men
Then the final event of the day was approaching
The last race about to begin.

- i) Where had the 'young women and men' come from? What had brought them together?
How had they prepared themselves for the event? [3]
- ii) What was the last event of the day? How many athletes were participating in this event?
What signal were they waiting for? [3]
- iii) What happened to the youngest athlete half way through the race? How did he respond? [3]
- iv) What 'strange' turn did the story take at this point? [3]
- v) Why does the poet say that the banner- "Special Olympics" could not have been nearer the
mark? What human quality does the poem celebrate? [4]

Question 5

The most important thing we've learned,
So far as children are concerned,
Is never, NEVER, NEVER let
Them near your television set-
Or better still, just don't install
The idiotic thing at all.

- a) What according to the poet is the most important thing that he has learnt about children? What
is referred to as 'the idiotic thing' in the extract? What shouldn't we do with this? [3]
- b) What is the effect of the television set on children? [3]
- c) How do television programmes affect the children? [3]
- d) Why do parents allow children to watch television in spite of its bad effect on them? [3]
- e) What according to you is the poet trying to teach the readers through the poem? [4]

Question 6

Some are like fields of sunlit corn,
Meet for a bride on her bridal morn,
Some, like the flame of her marriage fire,
Or, rich with the hue of her heart's desire,
Tinkling, luminous, tender, and clear,
Like her bridal laughter and bridal tear.

- i) What kind of bangles are suitable for a bride on the morning of her wedding day? [3]
- ii) Why is the reference to fields of corn significant for the new bride? [3]
- iii) What are the other bangles that are suitable for a bride? [3]
- iv) What does the phrase 'bridal laughter and bridal tear' signify? [3]
- v) What is the poet trying to convey through the poem? [4]

Section C [Short stories]

Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow: -

Question 7

Muni displayed his fortune for the day. She snatched the notes from him, counted them by the glow of the fire, and cried, "One hundred rupees! How did you come by it? Have you been stealing?"

"I have sold our goats to a red-faced man. He was absolutely crazy to have them, gave me all this money and carried them off in his motor car!"

- a) What food did Muni normally eat? Explain why is he expecting 'miracle' food to drop from the sky. [3]
- b) How did Muni's wife react when he saw the cash? [3]
- c) As soon as Muni completed his speech, what conclusion did his wife come to? [3]
- d) How can you conclude that Muni was annoyed by seeing the goats? [3]
- e) How did the story end? What has appealed to you in the story? [4]

Question 8

She huddled down in a heap in a corner formed by two houses, one of which projected further out into the street than the other, but though she tucked her little legs up under her she felt colder and colder. She did not dare to go home, for she had sold no matches and earned not a single penny.

- a) Who is 'she' referred to in the extract? Describe her appearance. [3]
- b) What is special about the day when this incident takes place? How is the weather on this day? Why was she out in such weather? [3]
- c) Why was the girl walking bare feet? What had happened to her footwear? [3]
- d) Why didn't she dare to go back home? What do we get to know about her home immediately after the extract? [3]
- e) What does the girl do after this extract? What does she see? What does it symbolise? [4]

Question 9

You can melt down all the gold medals and cups I have, and they couldn't be a plating on the 24 -carat friendship I felt for Luz Long at that moment.

- i) What, according to Coubertin, is the true spirit of Olympics? [4]
- ii) Why were nationalistic feelings high during these Games? [4]
- iii) Luz wanted Owens to do his best in the finals-even if that meant his own defeat. How does it reflect the theme of Owens' autobiographical account? [8]