

PRELIM 1 2020 – 21

Std: X

Marks: 80

Date: 18/02/21

Subject: Literature

Dur: 2 Hours

- Attempt **five** questions in all.
- You must attempt **one** question from each of Section **A, B, C** and any two other questions.
- Each section should begin on a new page.

Section A – Drama

Q1. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

**Gratiano: And it is marvel he out-dwells his hour,
For lovers ever run before the clock
Salarino: O ten times faster Venus' pigeons fly.
To seal love's bonds new-made, than they
are wont
To keep obliged faith unforfeited!**

1. Who is referred to as 'he' in the above lines? What justification does he give for his delay? What promise does he make to his friends? 3
2. Why is Jessica glad that its night? Who is Cupid? 3
3. Later in the scene why is Antonio looking for Gratiano? Why is the masque cancelled? 3
4. How does Lorenzo compliment Jessica in this scene? 3
5. Which comparisons does Gratiano give to explain the trepidation of one who is in love? 4

Q2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

**Upon supposed fairness, often known
To be the dowry of a second head,
The skull that bred them in the sepulcher
Thus ornament is but the guiled shore
To a most dangerous sea, the beauteous scarf
Veiling an Indian beauty; in a word,
The seeming truth which cunning times put on.**

1. Who is the speaker of the above lines? Which casket did he choose? What was inscribed on it? 3
2. What does the speaker say about the world being deceived 'in law' and 'in religion'? 3
3. What request did Portia make to Bassanio earlier in the scene? Why? What was the sin she was proposing to make? 3

4. What does Bassanio state about ornament in the above lines? 3
 5. What was the comparison and difference made between Alcides and Bassanio? 4

Q3. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

**Portia: but now I was the lord
 Of this fair mansion, master of my servants,
 Queen o'er myself; and even now, but now,
 This house, these servants, and this same myself
 Are yours, my lords, I give them with this ring:**

1. Why had Bassanio come as a suitor to win Portia in marriage? 3
 2. What was the threat that went with the ring that Portia gave Bassanio? 3
 3. What were Portia's wishes in order to be worthy of Bassanio? 3
 4. What does Portia say about her appearance when she is dressed as a man? 3
 5. What does Antonio say later about the course of law? 4

Section B – Poetry

Q4. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

**Some are purple and gold flecked grey.
 For she who has journeyed through life midway,
 Whose hands have cherished, whose love has blest,
 And cradled fair sons on her faithful breast,
 And serves her household in fruitful pride,
 And worships the gods at her husband's side.**

1. What is the theme and tone of the poem? 3
 2. What picture of the Indian woman do you get from the above lines? What do they symbolize? 3
 3. What colour bangles does a bride wear on her wedding morn? What are they compared to? What do they symbolize? 3
 4. Who describes the bangles in the poem? How are the bangles described in the first stanza? 3
 5. What was Sarojini Naidu called by Mahatma Gandhi? Why? State the metaphors used in the poem. 4

Q5. Read the extract given below and answer the questions given below:

**He gave out a cry of frustration and anguish
 His dreams and his efforts dashed in the dirt
 But as sure as I'm standing here telling the story
 Now it's a strange one, but here's what occurred**

1. Who gave out a cry of frustration and anger? Why? 3
 2. What occurred after the contestant had fallen? 3
 3. Where had the 'young women and men' come from? What had brought them together? How had they prepared for the event? 3
 4. What tribute does this poem exhibit? 3

5. What signified the beginning of the race? What was the mood of the spectators?
Pick the lines from the poem which tells us that the athletes were all geared up? 4

Q6. Read the extract given and answer the questions that follow.

**My father lived at Blenheim then,
Yon little stream hard by;
They burn his dwelling to the ground,
And he was forced to fly;
So, with his wife and child he fled,
Nor had he where to rest his head.**

1. How did Kaspar's father suffer during the war? 3
2. How does the poet describe the scene at the beginning of the poem? Name the grandchildren. 3
3. Why was the sight shocking even when the war was won? 3
4. What was old Kaspar's reaction when Peterkin came with the object? Describe the object? 3
5. What were the grandchildren's reaction to the explanation given for the war? Quote the line that is a refrain in the poem? 4

Section C – Prose

Q7. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

'Do you mean it was like this, Sahib?' asked the watchman and raised the lamp to his own face. The watchman had no eyes, no ears, no features at all – not even eyebrows! And that 's when the wind blew the lamp out.

1. What happened when Mr. Oliver saw the face of the boy in the pine forest? 3
2. Why was this school called 'Eton of the East' and by whom? 3
3. Why did Mr. Oliver feel uneasy when he approached the boy? 3
4. Did Mr. Oliver feel relieved at the sight of the lantern? Why? 3
5. Did you like the way the story ends? Justify. 4

Q8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

'I can't deny a petition for tobacco.' He said, lightly. 'It's the one friend of the unfortunate. Good-bye, Miss Fairchild. Duty calls, you know.' He held out his hand for a farewell.

1. Who is the real unfortunate person in the story? Why? 3
2. What does Mr. Easton tell Miss Fairchild to confirm that he is a marshal? 3
3. Give three similarities between Mr. Easton and a butterfly. 3
4. What is the twist in the story? 3
5. What does the glum faced man want to do? How does Easton take leave from Miss Fairchild? 4

Q9. Answer the following questions with reference to T.S Arthur's short story, 'An Angel In Disguise':

1. How did the villagers look at Maggie? Why did no one want to take her? 4
2. Elucidate the humane side of Mr. Thompson. 4
3. What was Jane Thompson's reaction when her husband brought Maggie home? What attracted Joe's attention on returning from his shop? 8