



**PARLE TILAK VIDYALAYA (ICSE)
FIRST PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**Grade: X
Date: 14.12.2020**

**Marks: 80
Time: 2 hrs.**

Answers to this paper must be written on the ruled sheets.
The PDF of the answer sheets will be uploaded after the writing time.
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 at least one question from each of the Sections A, B and C and not more than two other questions from the same books you have already compulsorily chosen. The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].
This paper has FOUR printed pages.

**SECTION A – DRAMA
THE MERCHANT OF VENICE: SHAKESPEARE**

Question 1 :

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:-

Antonio: Well, tell me now what lady is the same
To whom you swore a secret pilgrimage,
That you today promised to tell me of?

- (i) Who is this 'lady'? How did Bassanio describe her to Antonio? What had he sometimes received from her? (3)
- (ii) Later Bassanio mentions 'many Jasons come in quest of her'. Name the many 'Jasons' who had come and left without making a choice. Explain the reference to Jason and its connection to Portia. (3)
- (iii) What had Antonio earlier mentioned to Salanio and Salarino regarding his financial situation? In a later scene what reservations did Shylock have regarding Antonio's financial state? (3)
- (iv) What does Bassanio tell Antonio is his chief concern? What childhood experiment had Bassanio spoken of and how does he plan to use it one last time? (3)
- (v) What does Antonio tell the latter when he gives him the above example? Why is he unable to lend Bassanio the money and what errand does he send him on at the end of the scene? Why was it necessary to do so? (4)

Question 2 :

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:-

Salanio: You were best to tell Antonio what you hear;

Yet do not suddenly for it may grieve him.

Salarino: A kinder gentleman treads not the earth...

- (i) Where are the speakers? What had Salarino just heard? Why would this news grieve Antonio? (3)
- (ii) What advice had Antonio given Bassanio before he parted from him? What else had Salarino observed in their parting that prompted him to say, "I think he loves the world for him."? (3)
- (iii) Earlier, Salanio had witnessed a 'scene' caused by Shylock. Why did Shylock want to search Bassanio's ship? Who was with him and what information were they given? How did Salanio describe the 'scene' ? (3)
- (iv) What did Salanio mean when he said 'let good Antonio look he keep his day, or he shall pay for this'? Why could the Duke not deny the course of the law as realized by Antonio in a later act? (3)
- (v) What are your feelings for the Jew at this time? Do you think his hatred for Christians was justified? Give examples to validate your answer. (4)

SECTION B - POETRY TREASURE TROVE – A COLLECTION OF ICSE POEMS

QUESTION 3:

Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

For song and mother-croon of bird
In hushed and happy twilight heard—
The treble of heaven's harmony –
These things he plants who plants a tree.

- (i) Name the poem and the poet. How does the poet begin each verse of the poem and then continue? What is this technique called? Why do you think he uses it? (3)
- (ii) What is meant by, 'far-cast thought of civic good'? How does he plant the forest's heritage and what figure of speech is it? (3)
- (iii) Explain what is meant by the 'treble of heaven's harmony'. What allusion is referred to here? Quote and explain the phrases that reflect the futuristic thoughts of the poet. (3)
- (iv) How does 'he', who plants a tree, serve his nation? How does he wish to inspire ? Why does the poet use the capital H in the last verse? (3)
- (v) What is the theme of the poem in terms of transpiration, its importance for our survival? Do you think the title is apt? Give valid reasons for your answer. (4)

QUESTION 4 :

Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

' Now tell us what 'twas all about,'

Young Peterkin, he cries;

And little Wilhelmein looks up

With wonder-waiting eyes;

'Now tell us all about the war'

And what they fought each other for.'

- (i) Who were mentioned in this extract? How is the scene described at the beginning of the poem? (3)
- (ii) What does one of 'them' find and where? Describe it. What does Kasper say that made little Wilhelmein look with wonder waiting eyes? (3)
- (iii) Quote the line often repeated in the poem. What is it called and why does the poet do so? Who is referred to as 'each other'? What was their relevance to the poem? (3)
- (iv) Who is the addressee in the extract? How did he describe the effects of the war all around? (3)
- (v) What does the poet feel are the consequences of great and famous wars? What is his message to the readers? (4)

SECTION C - PROSE

TREASURE TROVE – A COLLECTION OF ICSE PROSE

QUESTION 5 :

Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

“What are you doing out here, boy? Asked Mr. Oliver sharply, moving closer so that he could recognize the miscreant.

- (i) Describe Mr. Oliver. What had Life Magazine called the place he worked in? Why? (3)
- (ii) Where did Mr. Oliver go every evening and why? How would he prefer to return against others who did not? (3)
- (iii) Describe the strange events that made Mr. Oliver believe that something was wrong? (3)
- (iv) What happened when the boy finally looked up? Describe Mr. Oliver's reaction and how it was contrary to his usual behaviour? (3)
- (v) What elements in the story lend to a feeling of horror? Did you like the story and the author's style of writing? Give adequate reasons for your answer. (4)

QUESTION 6 :

Answer the following questions with reference to Chief Seattle's Speech:

- (i) How does Chief Seattle lament that God was partial and that there was little in common between them? (4)
- (ii) What are Chief Seattle's thoughts about their youth, his hopes and the different concepts the tribe had of revenge? How does he explain that the Red people's end is near? What analogy does he use to state that his tribe feels cornered ? (4)
- (iii) What was The White Chief's proposal and why was Chief Seattle so willing to accept it? On what conditions is Chief Seattle willing to consider the White Chief's proposition? Give his reasons for doing so. (8)
