



**N. L. Dalmia<sup>®</sup>  
High School**

*Classical Education of N. L. Dalmia Education Trust*  
ICSE - ISC  
ISO 9001:2015

**THIRD PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION**

**Class :X**

**ENGLISH LITERATURE – PAPER II**

**Marks : 80 / Pgs 5**

**Date :13.01.2020**

**Time : 2 Hrs**

Answer to this paper must be written on the paper provided separately

You will NOT be allowed to write in 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

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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 the brackets [ ].

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**SECTION A- DRAMA  
(The Merchant of Venice)**

**Question1.**

**Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: [16]**

Shylock: [Aside] How like a fawning publican he looks!

I hate him for he is a Christian;

But more, for that in low simplicity

He lends out money gratis and brings down

The rate of usance here with us in Venice.

- a) Where does this scene take place? Who is the 'fawning publican'? Who is the third person present here? [3]
- b) Explain 'fawning publican'. Why did Shylock hate him? [3]
- c) Enumerate the possible threats to the 'fawning publican's' business ventures as stated by Shylock. [3]
- d) Write any three ways in which the 'fawning publican' had ill-treated Shylock. [3]
- e) What does Shylock ask the 'fawning publican' to do in 'merry sport'? List the qualities of Shylock and the 'fawning publican' in the light of this episode. [4]

**Contd.pg2**

X  
**Question 2.**  
**Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: [16]**

Gratiano: ...We are the Jasons, we have won the fleece.  
 Salerio : I would you had won the fleece that he has lost.  
 Portia : There are some shrewd contents in yon same paper  
 That steals the colour from Bassanio's cheek.

- a) Explain the metaphor, "We are the Jasons, we have won the fleece". Who is 'he' referred to by Salerio? What has he lost? [3]
- b) Which paper does Portia refer to when she says, "There are some shrewd contents in yon same paper"? What does the paper contain? [3]
- c) What is the impact of the 'paper' on Bassanio? What help does Portia offer Bassanio now? How would Portia and Nerissa live in the absence of their husbands? [3]
- d) State the similarities between Bassanio's friend and 'yon same paper' as narrated by Bassanio to Portia. [3]
- e) Briefly explain the 'continent and summary' of Bassanio's fortune which he had read earlier in the scene. [4]

**Question 3.**

**Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: [16]**

Shylock: What judgment shall I dread, doing no wrong?  
 You have among you many a purchased slave  
 Which like your asses and your dogs and mules  
 You use in abject and in slavish parts  
 Because you bought them.

- a) Where does the scene take place? Who is Shylock addressing? What comment had the listener made prior to Shylock's speech? [3]
- b) Explain the analogy of 'slave' as used by the speaker. [3]
- c) What does Shylock refer to as 'dearly bought'? What is meant by 'dearly bought'? Why is it 'dearly bought'? [3]
- d) In response to Shylock's speech what does the listener threaten to do? How does Bassanio try to comfort Antonio? [3]
- e) Do you agree with Shylock saying 'doing no wrong'? Justify your answer with examples from the play. [4]

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## SECTION B- POETRY

## Treasure Trove- A Collection of ICSE Poems

## Question 4.

Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: [16]

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

- At what stage of life is the woman in, as described in the extract? What has she achieved? [3]
- With reference to the last stanza comment on the role of women in a traditional Indian household? [3]
- How does the poet represent motherhood through the colours of the bangles? [3]
- How are the colours in the extract different from the colours that are chosen for a maiden? [3]
- Earlier in the poem, where do the bangle sellers carry their 'shining loads'? How do they describe them? [4]

## Question 5.

Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: [16]

We'll answer this by asking you,  
 'What used the darling ones to do?  
 How used they keep themselves contented  
 Before this monster was invented?'

- What is referred to as the 'monster' in the extract? How does the 'monster' harm the children? [3]
  - What advice does the poet give the parents about the 'monster'? [3]
  - Which activity, according to the poet, kept the children occupied before the 'monster' was invented? How did that activity enrich them? [3]
  - Who was Beatrix Potter? Name two books of Beatrix Potter from the poem. [3]
  - What are the poet's views about the 'monster'? Do you agree with his views? [4]
- Justify your answer.

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*Beatrix Potter, Bridal Heart*

**Question 6.**

**Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [16]

Continuous as the stars that shine  
And twinkle on the milky way,  
They stretch'd in a never-ending line  
Along the margin of a bay:

- a) Earlier in the extract to what does the poet compare himself? Where was the poet wandering? [3]
- b) What did the poet encounter while he was wandering? Where did he encounter them? What were 'they' doing? [3]
- c) What is the 'milky way'? Why is it referred to in the extract? [3]
- d) Why does the poet use a particular number later on in the poem? What is it? What poetic device is used here? [3]
- e) What was special about their dance? Who else danced? Explain the 'wealth' that was brought to the poet and how? [4]

**SECTION – C PROSE****Treasure Trove-A Collection of ICSE Short Stories****Question 7.**

**Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [16]

Muni sat at the foot of the statue, watching his two goats graze in the arid soil among the cactus and lantana bushes. He looked at the sun; it had tilted westward no doubt, but it was not the time to go back home; if he went too early his wife would have no food for him. Also he must give her time to cool off her temper and feel sympathetic, and then she would scrounge and manage to get some food.

- a) Who is Muni? What do you know about his background? *foleh* [3]
- b) Where is he now? Why is he there? Why is he not going home? [3]
- c) Describe the statue of the horse. [3]
- d) Who comes at this point of time? In what sort of vehicle does he come? What did Muni think about the profession of the newcomer? [3]
- e) What does the newcomer later tell Muni about his business? [4]

**Contd.pg5**

**Question 8.**

**Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: [16]**

Death touches the spring of our common humanity. This woman had been despised, scoffed at, and angrily denounced by nearly every man, woman and child in the village; but now as, the fact of, her death was passed from lip to lip, in subdued tones, pity took the place of anger, and sorrow of denunciation.

- a) Which woman is mentioned here? Why did she die and how? [3]
- b) What did the neighbours take to the old hut? [3]
- c) Briefly state the living conditions of the woman and her three children. [3]
- d) What future awaited the three children? [3]
- e) What does 'humanity' mean? Which character in the story truly displays 'humanity' and How? [4]

**Question 9**

**Answer the following questions with reference to the short story Hearts and**

**Hands:**

- a) Present a character sketch of the glum-faced man. [4]
- b) Describe Miss Fairchild. [4]
- c) "Appearances are deceptive". Discuss how it is applicable in the story? [8]

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