

ENGLISH Paper – 2

Answer to this Paper must be written on the paper provided 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.

You must attempt at least one question from each of the Section A, B, and C and not more

Than two other questions from the same section you have already compulsorily chosen.

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

SECTION A- DRAMA**Question 1.**

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

MOROCCO

Mislike me not for my complexion,
The shadow'd livery of the burnish'd sun,
To whom I am a neighbour and near bred. -
Bring me the fairest creature northward born,
Where Phoebus' fire scarce thaws the icicles,
And let us make incision for your love,
To prove whose blood is reddest, his or mine.
I tell thee, lady, this aspect of mine
Hath fear'd the valiant: by my love I swear
The best-regarded virgins of our clime
Have loved it too: I would not change this hue,
Except to steal your thoughts, my gentle queen.

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- a) Where is the scene set? Account for Morocco's presence in this place. [3]
- b) What can you assess of Morocco's appearance and character based on the given extract? [3]
- c) Mention any three actions that Morocco says he would be happy to perform in order to win Portia. [3]

d) What does Morocco have to swear before he makes his 'hazard'? [3]

e)) Portia speaks of 'the lottery of my destiny'. What exactly is she referring to? What in your opinion are Portia's feelings regarding this matter? [4]

Question 2.

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

BASSANIO :

In Belmont is a lady richly left;
And she is fair, and, fairer than that word,
Of wondrous virtues: sometimes from her eyes
I did receive fair speechless messages:
Her name is Portia, nothing undervalued
To Cato's daughter, Brutus' Portia:
Nor is the wide world ignorant of her worth,
For the four winds blow in from every coast
Renowned suitors, and her sunny locks
Hang on her temples like a golden fleece;
Which makes her seat of Belmont Colchos' strand,
And many Jasons come in quest of her.

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a) Where does the scene take place? To whom are these words addressed? Why does Bassanio talk about Portia in the extract? [3]

b) Give the meanings of : [3]
i. speechless messages
ii. nothing undervalued
iii. in quest of her

c) Who were Cato and Brutus ? Explain the significance of the golden fleece which Jason sought in Colchos. [3]

d) What evidence is there in the extract to show that Portia's fame had spread far and wide ? [3]

e) What request does Bassanio make to Antonio as far as Portia is concerned ? What reply does Antonio give him after the extract ? [4]

Question 3.

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

SHYLOCK :

Most learned judge! A sentence! Come, prepare!

PORTIA :

Tarry a little; there is something else.
 This bond doth give thee here no jot of blood;
 The words expressly are 'a pound of flesh.'
 Take then thy bond, take thou thy pound of flesh;
 But, in the cutting it, if thou dost shed
 One drop of Christian blood, thy lands and goods
 Are, by the laws of Venice, confiscate
 Unto the state of Venice.

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- a) Where are the speakers ? Why does Shylock address Portia as the most learned Judge ? What was Shylock about to do when Portia asked him to tarry a little ? [3]
- b) What did Antonio tell Bassanio to tell his wife about himself ? [3]
- c) Give two incidents to show that till now , Portia openly supported the cause of Shylock . [3]
- d) What was the catch in the agreement? Suppose somebody plots against the life of a Venetian citizen, what penalty would be imposed on him? [3]
- e) Give the impact on the latest interpretation of the terms of the bond on Shylock. How does the latest interpretation help Antonio? How does Gratiano react to this interpretation? [4]

SECTION B - PROSE

Question 4.

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

"Margot stood apart from them, from these children who could ever remember a time when there wasn't rain and rain and rain."

- i) Who is Margot? Where is she? Who are 'these children'? [3]
- ii) What are the children getting 'ready' for? What is unique about the life on Venus? [3]
- iii) What did the children dream of? [3]
- iv) Why is Margot different from other children? [3]
- v) Why do they dislike her? [4]

Question 5.

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

The torch fell from his trembling hand .He turned and scrambled down the path , running blindly through the trees and calling for help. He was still running towards the school buildings when he saw a lantern swinging in the middle of the path. Mr Oliver

stumbled up to the watchman, grasping for breath. 'What is it, Sahib?' asked the watchman. 'Has there been an accident? Why are you running?'

- i) Whose "trembling hand" is referred to in the extract? Why was it trembling? [3]
- ii) Explain the sentence:
"He turned and scrambled down the path, running blindly through the trees..." [3]
- iii) What did Oliver answer the watchman's questions in the extract above? [3]
- iv) The story ends with a thrilling climax. Do you agree? Why? [3]
- v) Comment on the appropriateness of the title of the story. [4]

Question 6.

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

Walking a few yards from the pit, I kicked disgustedly at the dirt. Suddenly I felt a hand on my shoulder. I turned to look into the friendly blue eyes of the tall German, broad jumper. He had easily qualified for the finals on his first attempt.

- i) Who is the speaker of above extract? Why did he kick the pit in disgust? [4]
- ii) There was something bothering the speaker. What was bothering the speaker? How was it taken care of? [4]
- iii) In what way the German broad jumper proved to be a true friend to the speaker? Explain with examples from the text. [8]

SECTION C - POEM

Question 7.

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

"I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Besides the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze."

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- i) Who has the poet compared himself with? Name the figure of speech used here. [3]
- ii) What does the poet come across on his way? Which movements are associated with what he finds? [3]
- iii) What transition of mood does the speaker undergo? [3]
- iv) Give the meaning of-
(a) Wandered (b) fluttering [3]
- v) Describe the beauty of the daffodils as illustrated by the poet in the first stanza. Name the figure of speech used here. [4]

Question 8.

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

"And is mine one?" said Abu. "Nay, not so,"
Replied the angel. Abu spoke more low,
But cheerly still; and said, "I pray thee, then,
Write me as one that loves his fellow men."
The angel wrote, and vanished. The next night
It came again with a great wakening light,
And showed the names whom love of God had blest,
And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

- i) Why does Abu lower his tone when the angel replied to his question? [3]
- ii) Does Abu get disheartened by the reply? What request does he make to the angel? [3]
- iii) Does the angel comply to the request of Abu? Does it stay there for long? [3]
- iv) What does it show Abu? What came as a pleasant surprise to him? [3]
- v) What does the poet wish to tell the readers through this poem? [4]

Question 9.

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

It was roses, roses, all the way,
With myrtle mixed in my path like mad:
The house-roofs seemed to heave and sway,
The church-spires flamed, such flags they had,
A year ago on this very day.
The air broke into a mist with bells,
The old walls rocked with the noise repels.
Had I said, "Good folk, mere noise repels.
But give me your sun from younger skies!"
They had answered, "And afterward, what else?"

- i) What kind of reception does the patriot receive one year ago? [3]
- ii) Describe the atmosphere of joy and triumph. [3]
- iii) How does the patriot prove that the people's love for him was beyond limits? [3]
- iv) Explain the meaning of-
(a) heave and sway (b) air broke into a mist [3]
- v) Why do you think the patriot is thinking of asking for the sun? [4]

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