

**GOKULDHAM HIGH SCHOOL & JUNIOR COLLEGE**  
**SECOND PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION - 2018-2019**

STD. : X  
DATE : 03.01.2019

MARKS : 80  
TIME : 2 Hours

**LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

**ENGLISH Paper-2**

*Answers 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.*

*Attempt five questions in all.*

*You must attempt one question from each of the Sections A, B and C and not more than any two other questions from the same books you have already compulsorily chosen.*

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

**SECTION A – DRAMA**

**(The Merchant of Venice : Shakespeare)**

**Question 1:**

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

[16]

*Shylock: Signior Antonio, many a time and oft*

*In the Rialto you have rated me*

*About my moneys and my usuances:*

*Still have I borne it with a patient shrug,*

*For sufferance is the badge of all our tribe.*

1. What is Antonio's response to Shylock's speech? [3]
2. Despite Antonio's response, Shylock says "I would be friends with you".  
What else is he prepared to do? [3]
3. What are the terms under which Shylock lends Antonio three thousand ducats for three months? [3].
4. How does Bassanio react to the terms of the bond? What does it reveal about his character? [3]

**This paper consists of 5 printed pages and 1 blank page**

**ICSE 19**

**Turn Over**

5. Describe how, despite proclamations of friendship throughout the scene, Shylock nurtures ill-will towards Antonio and cunningly deceives him into signing the bond. [4]

**Question 2:**

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

*Bassanio : Ere I ope his letter,  
I pray you, tell me how my good friend doth.*

*Salerio : Not sick, my lord, unless it be in mind;  
Nor well, unless in mind : his letter there  
Will show you his estate.*

*[ Bassanio reads the letter ]*

1. What effect do the contents of the letter have on Bassanio? What does Portia urge him to do? [3]
2. Why does Bassanio call himself 'worse than nothing'? How does he describe the letter? [3]
3. What according to Salerio does 'the Jew' do 'at morning and at night'? Who had tried to dissuade Shylock from 'the envious plea of forfeiture, of justice, and his bond'? [3]
4. How does Bassanio describe his 'dear friend' to Portia? [3]
5. What are the contents of Antonio's letter? What does it reveal about Antonio's feelings for Bassanio? [4]

**Question 3:**

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

*Gratiano : A second Daniel, a Daniel, Jew!  
Now, infidel, I have you on the hip.*

*Portia : Why doth the Jew pause? Take thy forfeiture.*

*Shylock : Give me my principal, and let me go.*

1. Why does Gratiano hail Portia as 'A second Daniel'? What has Portia said just before the extract? [3]
2. Who was 'Daniel'? What does Gratiano mean by 'I have you on the hip'? [3]
3. What is Portia's reply to Shylock's demand for his 'principal'? What is his reaction to Portia's response? [3]

4. "The law hath yet another hold on you". To what hold is Portia referring? [3]
5. Trace how Shylock's position changes in this scene from being the tormentor to being the tormented. [4]

**SECTION B – POETRY**  
(A Collection of Poems)

**Question 4:**

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

*How used they keep themselves contented*

*Before this monster was invented?*

*Have you forgotten? Don't you know?*

*We'll say it very loud and slow:*

**THEY ...USED...TO...READ!**

*(Television: Roald Dahl)*

1. What kind of a poem is 'Television'? What is 'the most important thing we've learned so far as children are concerned' according to the poet? [3]
2. Why do the parents allow the children to watch television? [3]
3. What effect does watching television have on the children? [3]
4. What changes will come in the children : '...once they start reading'? How will they perceive the television then? [3]
5. 'The poem 'Television' takes a comic look at a serious problem among young children today. Give examples from the poem. [4]

**Question 5:**

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

*A free bird leaps*

*on the back of the wind*

*and floats downstream*

*till the current ends*

*and dips his wings*

*in the orange sun rays*

*and dares to claim the sky*

*(I Know why the Caged Bird Sings : Maya Angelou)*

1. How has the caged bird been described in the second stanza, in contrast to the free bird? [3]
2. In what manner does the caged bird sing? Of what does he sing? [3]

3. What do the caged bird and the free bird represent? What does the caged bird's condition symbolise? [3]
4. How has the poet depicted the free bird's easy, privileged existence? [3]
5. What is the theme of the poem 'I know why the caged bird sings'? Which image in the poem did you feel was the most vivid and touching? Why? [4]

**Question 6:**

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

*I go in the rain, and, more than needs,  
A rope cuts both my wrists behind;  
And I think, by the feel, my forehead bleeds,  
For they fling, whoever has a mind,  
Stones at me for my year's misdeeds  
(The Patriot : Robert Browning)*

1. What did the narrator see as he was welcomed 'A year ago on this very day'? [3]
2. In what way has the poet depicted the adulation and affection of the people for the Patriot? [3]
3. What was the Patriot guilty of that led to his downfall? What is his 'harvest'? [3]
4. 'There's nobody on the house-tops now' Where are the people? Why? What does it reveal about the people's character? [3]
5. Elaborate on the Patriot's state of mind at the end. [4]

**SECTION C – PROSE**  
**(A Collection of Short Stories)**

**Question 7:**

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

*The horse was nearly life-size, moulded out of clay, baked, burnt, and slightly coloured, and reared its head proudly, prancing its forelegs in the air and flourishing its tail in a loop; beside the horse stood a warrior with scythe like mustachios, bulging eyes and aquiline nose.*

1. What was the belief of the villagers about the statue of the horse? [3]
2. How does the foreigner plan to take the statue of the horse safely to his country? [3]

3. What was Muni's reaction when he saw the American 'flourishing a hundred rupee currency note'? [3]
4. Why did the American decide to show an interest in the old man's pets? What misunderstanding did it lead to? What was his dream? [3]
5. Using the simplest of settings, Narayan has crafted a sensitive yet amusing story, rich in situational comedy. Give three examples of situational comedy from the story. [4]

**Question 8:**

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

They turned on themselves, like a feverish wheel, all tumbling spokes. Margot stood alone. She was a very frail girl who looked as if she had been lost in the rain for years and the rain had washed out the blue from her eyes and the red from her mouth and the yellow from her hair.

1. What had Margot written in her poem ? What activities had the children participated in 'yesterday' ? [3]
2. In what ways did the children bully Margot ? [3]
3. How did Margot react when the children played in the tunnels of the underground city? What was her response when the class sang songs ? [3]
4. What were the 'reasons of big and little consequences' which made the other children hate Margot ? [3]
5. What was the reaction of the children at the end of the story ? Do you think that the story ends on a 'note of hope'? Why ? [4]

**Question 9:**

Answer the following questions with reference to Norah Burke's story 'The Blue Bead'.

1. How has the author described the crocodile to create the impression of a 'ferocious and formidable' force in the water ? [4]
2. Sibia's mother says 'I thought something must have happened to you', at the end of the story. What response do we expect from Sibia? How is Sibia's response different? Why? [4]
3. Describe the kind of life Sibia, the protagonist of the story 'The Blue Bead', has. [8]