



STP: 10

Reading Time 15 Mins.

Marks: 80

Writing Time 7 Hours.

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 only five questions in all.

You must attempt at least one question from each of the Sections A, B and C and any two other questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of 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:

BASSANIO

To entrap the wisest. Therefore then, thou gaudy gold,  
Hard food for Midas, I will none of thee;  
Nor none of thee, thou pale and common drudge  
Tween man and man: but thou, thou meagre lead,  
Which rather threatenest dost promise aught,  
Thy paleness moves me more than eloquence;  
And here choose I: joy be the consequence!

- (i) Who is Bassanio? Who is he? Who is he referring to? [3]
- (ii) Explain the context of the line 'thou gaudy gold'. What is the reference to 'Midas'? [3]
- (iii) What's the final choice that Bassanio makes? Is he confident? Which of the following statements expresses his confidence? [3]
- (iv) Describe the way the other person reacts to the choice he makes. [3]
- (v) Elucidate on how the scene becomes vital to conflict to the main conflict of the plot. [4]

Question 2

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

"The man that hath a music in him,  
Nor is not moved with the tune of sweet sounds,  
Is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils;  
The motions of this spindle as dull as night,  
And his affections, dark as Erebus.  
Let no such man be trusted. Mark the music.

- (i) Where does the scene take place? What are they doing there? From your reading of the play, comment on the relationship between Lorenzo and Jessica. [3]
- (ii) Why do you think that Jessica is not happy to hear sweet music? What reason does Lorenzo give for this state of Jessica? [3]
- (iii) What was the effect of the music played by Orpheus? How could music affect one's nature according to Lorenzo? [3]
- (iv) What has been said about a person who dislikes music? [3]
- (v) Explain the lines, [4]
  - a) 'Dark as Erebus'
  - b) 'is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils.'

SECTION B (POETRY)

A GROUP OF POETS

**AMBIKA BOOK DEPOT**  
 Shop No. 1, Rangoli, Vasant Utsav,  
 Thakur Village, Kandivall (E),  
 Mumbai - 400 101  
 Mob: 9821212121

Question 3

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

So please, oh please, we beg, we pray.

Go throw your TV set away,

And in its place you can install

A lovely bookshelf on the wall.

(Television, Khalid-Dahl)

- (i) Whom does the poet request to throw away the TV set? Why? [3]
- (ii) Does television prove to be beneficial to anyone in the poem? How? [3]
- (iii) What is the probability of children's reaction on throwing away the TV set? What has to be placed instead? Why? [3]
- (iv) How does the poet profess the necessity of reading books is similar to by pointing out the evil effects of television? [3]
- (v) The tone and the choice of words add to the didactic element of the poem. Explain. [1]

Question 4

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 leave and stray,

The church-spires that high flags they had,

A year ago on this very day.

(The Patriot, R. Browning)

- (i) Who is the speaker? Why does he speak these lines 'It was roses, roses, all the way, / with myrtle mixed in my path like mad'? [3]
- (ii) Why does the speaker specifically mention 'A year ago on this very day'? [3]
- (iii) What has changed for the speaker, from the past to the present? Give examples from the poem to show the contrast between the gone time and the present scenario. [3]
- (iv) The treatment that the speaker gets is no less than that of a criminal. What consequence does he face? Why? [3]
- (v) Do you agree that the speaker resigns to his fate in the end? How? Justify your answer. [4]

**SECTION C (PROSE)**  
**A COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES**

**Question 5**

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

"I am sure you know when this horse was made," said the red man and smiled ingratiatingly.

Muni reacted to the relaxed atmosphere by smiling himself, and pleaded, "Please go away, sir, I know nothing. I promise we will hold him for you if we see any bad character around, and we will bury him up to his neck in a coconut pit if he tries to escape; but our village has always had a clean record. Must definitely be the other village."

(A Horse and Two Goats, R.K. Narayan)

- (i) Where does the scene take place? Who is this red man that Muni encounters? [3]
- (ii) 'Please go away, sir, I know nothing.' In what context does Muni speak these words? [3]
- (iii) 'I am sure you know when this horse was made' what was fascinating about the statue of horse that it became focal point of discussion? [3]
- (iv) What are the two entirely different discussions related to horse that Muni and the red man get involved in? [3]
- (v) How does the language barrier between the red man and Muni provide humour to the story? Support your explanation with two evidences from the text. [4]

**Question 6**

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

Mrs. Thompson sat in the window, and with ruffling feathers met him a few feet from the door, as he stepped the garden gate, and came in. He bore a precious burden, and he meant to be so. As his arms held the sick child to his breast, a sphere of tenderness went out from her, and penetrated his feelings. A bond had already corded itself around them both, and love was springing into life.

"What have you there?" sharply questioned Mrs. Thompson.

(An Angel in Disguise, T.S. Arthur)

- (i) Who is the sick child? Why does Mr Thompson carry the child home? Why is she described as a 'precious burden'? [3]
- (ii) How the child is separated from her siblings? What happened to them? [3]
- (iii) "What have you there?" Why does Mrs Thompson speak in an angry tone? What could be the reason of her such behaviour? [3]
- (iv) Do you think the transformation that takes place in Mrs Thompson behaviour is because of her husband? Justify your answer. [3]
- (v) Elaborate on the theme of 'the redeeming power of love' by supporting your answer with two examples from the story. [4]

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