

V I B G Y O R H I G H

Second Preliminary Examination

2018-2019

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Grade: X

Max. Marks : 80

Date : 11/01/2019

Time Allowed : 2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS:-

- 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 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[]

Section A – Drama

The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare

Question 1

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

Well, keep me company but two years more,
Thou shalt not know the sound of thine own
tongue.

- Who is the speaker of the given lines? Who is he speaking to? Where are they? [3]
- What was the speaker's 'exhortation' to Antonio in order to relieve him of his sadness? What was his opinion about the 'reputed wise'? [3]
- What did Bassanio not 'make moan' of? What was his chief care now? What did Antonio's love give him a warranty for? [3]
- What did Bassanio request Antonio for? What reason did Antonio give for his inability to help Bassanio? How did Antonio propose to help his friend? [3]
- Providing appropriate textual references, state how the opening scene accomplishes the task of an informative exposition of the play. [4]

AMBIKA BOOK DEPOT
Shop No. 1, Rangan, Vasant Utsav
Thakur Village, Kandivali (E)
Mumbai - 400 101.
Mob. 9821233050

Question 2

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

With one fool's head I came to woo,
But I go away with two.
Sweet, adieu. I'll keep my oath,
Patiently to bear my wrath.

- (i) Naming the 'I' in the given extract state who did he bid adieu to. Why did 'I' have to bid 'adieu'? [3]
- (ii) What was Portia's reaction after 'I' made an exit? Which ancient saying did Nerissa make a reference to at the same time? [3]
- (iii) Who entered the scene immediately after? What did he announce? [3]
- (iv) Which casket had 'I' chosen? Why had 'I' rejected the other two caskets? [3]
- (v) Name the other suitors who agreed to the casket test. What does their choice reveal of them? [4]

Question 3

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

Nay, but hear me:
Pardon this fault, and by my soul I swear
I never more will break an oath with thee.

- (i) Naming the speaker state who is being referred to as 'thee'. Where are they? [3]
- (ii) What had the speaker said earlier in order to 'abate the strength of your displeasure'? [3]
- (iii) How had 'thee' reproached Gratiano? What had 'thee' made her love swear? [3]
- (iv) Who was the 'unhappy subject of these quarrels' and how did he come to the rescue of the speaker? [3]
- (v) The humiliation and loss that Shylock suffered because of his own schemes made him realize that he was doomed and damned. Yet we sympathise with him.

Providing relevant instances from the play, show how Shylock proves to be a subject of sympathy for the readers. [4]

Section B – Poetry

Treasure Trove: A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories

Question 4

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

He plants the forest's heritage;
The harvest of a coming age;

- (i) What is the question put forth to the reader at the beginning of the extract? What does it imply? [3]
- (ii) What is said to be 'the harvest of a coming age'? [3]
- (iii) What does the person who plants a tree hold in the hollow of his hand? What 'stirs in his heart' then? [3]
- (iv) How does the planting of a tree convey the man's loyalty? [3]
- (v) The poet appreciates the trees not only for their aesthetic value and beauty, but also for their role in human welfare. Justify with reference to the poem 'The Heart of the Tree'. [4]

Question 5

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

Their dying fire in need of logs,
But the first one held hers back

- (i) What did each human possess? Where were they trapped? What was 'the dying fire' a symbol of? [3]
- (ii) What were the thoughts that preoccupied the rich man's mind? What did it reveal of him? [3]
- (iii) Describing the 'third one' state what was his sin. [3]
- (iv) Who was the last man of the group? What was the game played by him? [3]
- (v) 'An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind.'
Explain with reference to the poem 'The Cold Within' how a lack of warmth in human relations leads to the death of all. [4]

Question 6

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

**I gazed- and gazed- but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:**

- (i) What is the 'show' being referred to in the extract? What was the wealth that the poet derived from it? [3]
- (ii) What had the poet seen 'at a glance'? What had the poet compared himself to in the beginning of the poem? [3]
- (iii) Where had the poet seen the 'show'? [3]
- (iv) The poet has personified 'the show' in innumerable ways. Mention any three. [3]
- (v) William Wordsworth not only celebrates nature but also talks about its influence on him in this poem. Elaborate. [4]

Section C – Prose

Treasure Trove: A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories

Question 7

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

Such thoughts did not trouble Sibia, however, as she skipped along with her sickle and homemade hayfork beside her mother.

- (i) What were the thoughts that did not trouble Sibia? Why? [3]
- (ii) What were some of the 'wonders of the world' for Sibia? What does it reveal of her? [3]
- (iii) How did the Gujar woman fall prey to the crocodile? Describe how Sibia saved her life. [3]
- (iv) What did Sibia consider a bigger achievement than saving the Gujar woman? Why? [3]
- (v) 'The Blue Bead' presents a graphic picture of the tough life of country folk residing in a village, untouched by the influence of urbanization. Provide instances from the story, 'The Blue Bead' to justify this statement. [4]

Question 8

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

"Various animals," he said, and shook his head. "I had to leave them."

- (i) Who is the speaker of the given extract? Where was he from? Why did he have to leave his animals? [3]
- (ii) Who is the narrator of the story? What was his 'business'? [3]
- (iii) How did the narrator try to help the speaker? Why did the narrator feel helpless in the end? [3]
- (iv) What was the cause of the speaker's worry and guilt? [3]
- (v) Wars and battles are always detrimental to any civilization and are the reasons for its doom. Bringing out the irony in the story describe how war has affected the people in 'Old Man and the Bridge.' [4]

Question 9

Answer the following questions with reference to Hans Christian Anderson's short story, 'The Little Match Girl':

- (i) What did the little girl do to protect herself from the cold? Why was she reluctant to go home? [4]
- (ii) Death was a relief from a harsh life for the little match girl. Justify with reference to this story. [4]
- (iii) Describing the visions the little girl had, elaborate upon their symbolic significance. Which vision do you think comforted her the most and why? [8]