
ENGLISH

Paper 2

Literature in English

(Two 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 five questions in all.

*You must attempt **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

Shakespeare: *The Merchant of Venice*

Question 1

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

Portia: O me the word 'choose'! I may neither choose
who I would nor refuse who I dislike; so is the
will of a living daughter curbed by the will of
a dead father.

- (i) Where are Portia and Nerissa? Why are they there? [3]
- (ii) Earlier, in what way did Nerissa try to cheer Portia? What was Portia's
reaction to what Nerissa had said? [5]

This paper consists of 9 printed pages and 1 blank page.

- (iii) State in your own words what Portia means by 'the will of a living daughter curbed by the will of a dead father'. [2]
- (iv) Immediately after this extract, what reasons does Nerissa give to Portia to justify 'the will of a dead father'? Do you think that the justification proved correct? Give reasons for your answer. [3]
- (v) Towards the end of the scene, Portia affirms that she must abide by 'the will of a dead father'. What does she say? From what she says, what opinion do you form of her? [3]

Question 2

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

Shylock: How now Tubal! What news from Genoa? Hast thou found my daughter?

Tubal: I often came where I did hear of her, but cannot find her.

- (i) Who is Tubal? What has been said about him a little earlier in the scene? [2]
- (ii) What does Shylock say in response to Tubal's words: 'but I cannot find her'? [4]
- (iii) What information does Tubal now give to Shylock concerning Antonio? State what Shylock tells Tubal expressing his reaction to what the latter has said. [5]
- (iv) What instructions does Shylock give to Tubal at the end of their meeting? [3]
- (v) What is your impression of Shylock as a father? Give reasons to justify your answer. [2]

The Winslow Boy : Terence Rattigan

Question 3

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

Sir Robert: I suggest that by continuing to deny your guilt you are causing great hardship to your own family, and considerable annoyance to high and important persons in this country —

Catherine: (on her feet) That's a disgraceful thing to say!

Arthur: I agree.

- (i) Who is Sir Robert? Why is he at the scene? [3]
- (ii) What opinion did Kate express to her father about Sir Robert when she learnt that Sir Robert was approached? [4]
- (iii) State two hardships that the family would have to face on account of what Ronnie had done. What advice did Sir Robert give to Ronnie regarding this? What effect did it have on Ronnie? [4]
- (iv) Mention briefly the three possibilities that Sir Robert had suggested in connection with what Ronnie had done at the Naval College. [3]
- (v) What hope did Sir Robert give to the Winslow family as he took his leave from them? [2]

Question 4

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

Arthur: Doddery though Mr. Jackson may seem now, I very much doubt if he failed in his pass mods when he was at Oxford.

Dickie: (aggrieved) Dash it — Father — you promised not to mention that again this vac-

Grace: You did, you know, Arthur.

- (i) Who is Mr. Jackson? What has been said about him immediately before this extract? [2]
- (ii) Why did Arthur say, "I very much doubt if he failed in his pass mods when he was at Oxford"? [2]
- (iii) State briefly what Dickie felt about his father's statement? Why did he feel that way? [4]
- (iv) Later, the conversation shifts to Catherine and John's proposed marriage. What was Arthur's reason for giving his consent to the marriage? How did John and Grace react to Arthur's consent to the marriage? [4]
- (v) How did Arthur come to know of Ronnie's return from the Naval Academy? What did he feel when he came to know of Ronnie's return? [4]

SECTION B — POETRY

A Pageant of Poems: (Selina Publishers)

Question 5

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

Well — let me dive into the depths of time,
And bring from out the ages that have rolled
A few small fragments of those wrecks sublime,
Which human eyes may never more behold;
And let the guerdon of my labour be
My fallen country! one kind wish from thee!

- (i) Name the poem from which the above extract is taken. Who is the poet? [2]
- (ii) The poet speaks of some glorious days that have passed. Mention two striking images he uses to express the past. [4]

- (iii) In the context of the poem, give the meaning of the phrase "... those wrecks sublime." [2]
- (iv) What does the poet wish to achieve through this poem for himself and for the reader? [4]
- (v) Why does the poet, speaking of those 'wrecks sublime' say 'which human eyes may never more behold'? Do you like the poem? Give reasons for your answer. [4]

Question 6

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

Jack had a wife.

A soulless, savage woman she was, who disapproved
volubly of his idle ways.

But the only result was to make him stay out longer,
(Like Rip Van Winkle).

- (i) Give four different ways in which the poet describes "his idle ways." [4]
- (ii) The poet says: "How Jack lived none knew." Describe any four activities Jack was involved in, in the course of a normal day. [4]
- (iii) Why was Jack liked by (a) the poet and (b) the girls? [2]
- (iv) Give any three skills of Jack which endeared him to the boys. [3]
- (v) Three people did not like Jack. Name them. For each of the people you name, give a reason why they did not like him. [3]

SECTION C — PROSE

A Collection of Short Stories (I.U.P.)

Question 7

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

“And now the banker, walking to and fro, remembered all this, and asked himself; ‘What was the object of the bet?’...Then he remembered what followed that evening... and thought: ‘Tomorrow at twelve o’clock he will regain his freedom.’”

- (i) With whom did the banker make the bet? What were the terms and conditions of the bet? [4]
- (ii) ‘Tomorrow he will regain his freedom’. What were the fears of the banker? What did he then plan to do and why? [3]
- (iii) As the banker was about to carry out his plan he found a sheet of paper on which something was written by the other man. Briefly state what the other man conveyed to the banker through the note. [3]
- (iv) What was the banker’s reaction after he had read the note? [2]
- (v) How did the man prove in action that he despised all that the banker lived by? What did the banker finally do? [4]

Question 8

By closely referring to relevant incidents, show how the story ‘Love Across the Salt Desert’ narrates the triumph of human will and determination. [16]

Selected Short Stories (Selina Publishers)

Question 9

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

"Whilst we changed and had breakfast Gunga Ram hung around. The school bus came and we clambered into it with the tin. As the bus started we held out the tin to Gunga Ram.

'Here's your Kala Nag. Safe in this box.'

- (i) Who was Gunga Ram? What opinion did the boys have of him? Why was Gunga Ram unhappy with the boys? [4]
- (ii) What did Gunga Ram do every night? What reason did he give for it? [2]
- (iii) Why did Gunga Ram have devotion to Kala Nag? What point did he try to prove through his devotion? [3]
- (iv) Briefly narrate how Kala Nag came to be in the box. [3]
- (v) How did Gunga Ram meet his death? What is strange about the way he died? Name the author of this story. [4]

Question 10

With reference to the story 'An Astrologer's Day', describe how fear changed the course of the Astrologer's life. What do you think of the way the story ends. Give reasons for your answer. [16]

The Old Man and the Sea (E. Hemingway)

Question 11

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

“That always fascinated the old man. But he did not even watch it now.

‘I have the gaff now,’ he said. ‘But it will do no good. I have the two oars and the tiller and the short club.’

Now they have beaten me, he thought.”

- (i) Where was the old man going? What did he expect to see? Whom did he hope to meet there? [3]
- (ii) Mention briefly what had just happened for the Old Man to say: ‘Now they have beaten me.’ [2]
- (iii) What did the old man decide to do the next time the sharks approached his skiff? [2]
- (iv) Later, when a shark came close to his skiff what did the old man do to it? [2]
- (v) How did the shark react to what the old man had done? What was the old man’s feeling at the way the shark reacted? [4]
- (vi) How long had the old man been at sea? What was his condition now? [3]

Question 12

Narrate briefly any **one** encounter of the Old Man with sharks as he was returning to land with his kill. What is your opinion of the Old Man? [16]

Anandamath: (Bankim Chandra Chatterji)

Question 13

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

“Here, this rogue is a sanyasi.”

A sepoy arrested Mahendra too; for, he reasoned, a companion of a sanyasi must also be a sanyasi. Another sepoy was about to touch the dead body of Kalyani lying on the grass, but he realized that the dead body of a woman was unlikely to be a sanyasini.

- [3] (i) Who is the ‘rogue’ spoken of? Why was he arrested? How was he set free? [4]
- [2] (ii) Who is Kalyani? Why is her dead body lying there? [2]
- [2] (iii) Kalyani regained her life later on. How was she brought back to life and by whom? [3]
- [2] (iv) What was the name of the place Mahendra came from? Why did he leave that place? Why was he asked to go back there by the Mahatma? [4]
- [4] (v) What lesson did Mahendra learn while in prison? How did it influence him? [3]

Question 14

“Which hero ever became a hero without the cooperation of his wife?” In the light of this statement; describe the part played by Kalyani and Shanti in making their husbands heroes. [16]

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