
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:-

But mercy is above this sceptred sway,
It is enthroned in the hearts of kings,
It is an attribute to God himself;
And earthly power doth then show likest God's
When mercy seasons justice.

- (i) Why does Portia speak about mercy in the extract? [4]

This paper consists of 8 printed pages.

Turn Over

- (ii) Give the meaning of the following:-

But mercy is above this sceptred sway,

It is enthroned in the hearts of kings.

[2]

- (iii) Who else had appealed for mercy earlier? What was the outcome of the appeal?

[2]

- (iv) One should stand for justice. Referring only to the extract, state why, according to Portia, mercy should season justice.

[4]

- (v) When Shylock refuses to show mercy, what legal tactics does Portia use to free Antonio?

[4]

Question 2

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

Lorenzo: Madam, with all my heart,

I shall obey you in all fair commands.

Portia: My people do already know my mind,

And will acknowledge you and Jessica

In place of Lord Bassanio and myself.

So fare you well till we shall meet again.

- (i) Where are Lorenzo and Portia at this time? What 'fair commands' are given to Lorenzo?

[2]

- (ii) How does Lorenzo describe Portia in the beginning of the scene?

[2]

- (iii) What does Portia say to Lorenzo about the place where she is going? Where is she actually going and why?

[4]

- (iv) What order does Portia give to Balthazar a little later?

[5]

- (v) What information does Portia give to Nerissa? In what mood is Portia when she is speaking to Nerissa?

[3]

The Winslow Boy : Terence Rattigan

Question 3

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

Arthur (wearily): Oh, Kate, Kate! Are we both mad, you and I?

Catherine: What's the matter, Father?

Arthur: I don't know. I suddenly feel suicidally inclined.
(*Bitterly*) A father's fight for his little boy's honour. Special appeal to all women. Photo inset of Mrs. Winslow's curtains! Is there any hope for the world?

Catherine (smiling): I think so, Father.

Arthur: Shall we drop the whole thing, Kate?

- (i) Where are Arthur and Catherine at this time? Why does Arthur say, 'Are we both mad'? [2]
- (ii) Who is the 'little boy' mentioned in the extract? What has made him lose his honour? [2]
- (iii) What is referred to as the 'whole thing' in the extract? Why does Arthur want to drop 'the whole thing'? [3]
- (iv) Who are the visitors who arrive at this place a little later? What is the purpose of their visit? Give a description of one of the visitors. [6]
- (v) What are the effects of the encounter between the 'little boy' and one of the visitors? What does one of the visitors decide ultimately? [3]

Question 4

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

Violet: Two years all but one month it's been, now, since Master Ronnie came back that day. Fancy.

Arthur: Yes.

Violet: I don't mind telling you, sir, I wondered sometimes whether you and Miss Kate weren't just wasting your time carrying on the way you have all the time. Still – you couldn't have felt that if you'd been in Court today —

- (i) Who is Violet? What did Arthur say about Violet earlier while talking to John Watherstone? [3]
- (ii) From where has Violet returned now? What does Violet say about the happenings at the place from where she has returned? What is the effect of what she says on Miss Kate? [4]
- (iii) What do you think of Violet in the context of the extract? Name two persons who share Violet's ideas. [3]
- (iv) State the terms of the Attorney-General's statement about Ronnie as read out by Sir Robert. [3]
- (v) What is your opinion of Sir Robert? How does the play end? [3]

SECTION B — POETRY

Images of Life

Question 5

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

You sit crouched in your palanquin and repeat
the names of the gods in prayer.

The bearers, shaking in terror, hide themselves in the thorny bush.

I shout to you, "Don't be afraid, mother, I am here."

- (i) Who is the narrator? Why does the mother have to 'repeat the names of gods in prayer'? [2]
- (ii) Describe the place where the scene referred to in the extract takes place. [3]
- (iii) What warning does the narrator give to those who appear on the scene? [3]
- (iv) Describe the incident that follows. [4]
- (v) What does the mother do after the narrator's return? Name the poet and the poem from which the extract given above is taken. [4]

Question 6

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

Macavity's a Mystery Cat: he's called the Hidden Paw —

For he's the master criminal who can defy the Law.

He's the bafflement of Scotland Yard, the Flying Squad's despair:

- (i) Why is Macavity called a 'Hidden Paw'? Why is he 'the bafflement of Scotland Yard'? [3]
- (ii) Briefly describe the appearance of Macavity. [4]
- (iii) Mention any four crimes committed by Macavity. [4]
- (iv) What does the Secret Service say about Macavity? [2]

- (v) Whom does Macavity represent in the poem? Why is he called 'the Napoleon of Crime'? [3]

SECTION C — PROSE

Figments of Imagination

Question 7

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

.....Hughie could not help pitying him, and felt in his pockets to see what money he had. All he could find was a sovereign and some coppers. 'Poor old fellow,' he thought to himself, 'he wants it more than I do, but it means no hansoms for a fortnight'; and he walked across the studio and slipped the sovereign into the beggar's hand.

The old man started, and a faint smile flitted across his withered lips. 'Thank you, sir,' he said, 'thank you.'

- (i) Where is Hughie at this time? Give a description of the 'poor old fellow' as Hughie found him. [4]
- (ii) What is meant by 'no hansoms for a fortnight'? [1]
- (iii) What astonishing revelation does Hughie's friend make about the 'poor old fellow'? What does Hughie think of himself after the revelation? [4]
- (iv) Who comes to meet Hughie the next morning? What does Hughie think about the purpose of his visit? [2]
- (v) What does the person who comes to meet Hughie give him? What is written on it? What does it contain? [3]
- (vi) What moral lesson does the story give to the readers? [2]

Question 8

Madame Loisel is ashamed of her life of poverty and desires to project herself as a woman of affluence. Bring out the truth of this statement with suitable illustrations from the story, 'The Diamond Necklace' and describe how this desire of Madame Loisel becomes the cause of a greater suffering. [16]

The Old Man and the Sea : Ernest Hemingway

Question 9

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

"I killed him in self-defence," the old man said aloud. "And I killed him well."

Besides, he thought, everything kills everything else in some way. Fishing kills me exactly as it keeps me alive. The boy keeps me alive, he thought. I must not deceive myself too much.

- (i) Who is the old man? Whom did he kill in 'self-defence'? [2]
- (ii) Who is 'the boy'? How does he keep the old man alive? [3]
- (iii) Describe the great fish as it was seen for the first time by the old man. [4]
- (iv) In what condition did the old man bring the great fish into the little harbour? What is the comment made by a lady tourist about the great fish? [4]
- (v) What dream did the old man often have? What is the significance of the dream? [3]

Question 10

Give a detailed account of the 'hand game' played by the old man at the tavern at Casablanca. Why does the old man recollect the hand game? [16]

Question 11

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

At first Kalyani did not realize what was happening. But as memory returned, she bowed at the feet of the Mahatma. He blessed her; fetched a bowl of milk, warmed it over the fire and said:

“Mother, feed your baby with this milk, and drink the rest yourself. I shall then talk to you.”

Kalyani was happy indeed to feed her baby.

- (i) Where is Kalyani at this time? What does the Mahatma say to Kalyani about that particular place? [3]
- (ii) Give a description of Kalyani's village. [3]
- (iii) Why does Kalyani bow at the feet of the Mahatma? In what danger was Kalyani a short while ago? [3]
- (iv) Does Kalyani drink the rest of the milk? Why? What does her action reflect about her character? [3]
- (v) Where does the Mahatma go from here? To whom does he speak there? Describe the person to whom the Mahatma speaks. [4]

Question 12

Describe what takes place from the time Mahendra Singh finds a bullock-cart moving along with a heavy guard of sepoy till the treasures of the cart are taken away by Jiban and his men. [16]