
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 : Julius Caesar

Question 1

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

Casca : But wherefore did you so much tempt the heavens?

It is the part of men to fear and tremble

When the most mighty gods by tokens send

Such dreadful heralds to astonish us.

Cassius : You are dull, Casca, and those sparks of life

That should be in a Roman you do want,

Or else you use not.

- (i) In what way has Cassius tempted the heavens? [3]
- (ii) Explain why Cassius does not consider Casca a true Roman. What does he say just after the extract to justify his calling Casca dull? [3]
- (iii) Mention any two unnatural sights seen by Casca as related to Cicero earlier. What is Cicero's opinion of the unnatural sights? [3]

This Paper consists of 8 printed pages.

- (iv) Later in the scene, what information does Casca give Cassius regarding Caesar? How does Cassius react to this? [3]
- (v) State any two aspects of Cassius' character as revealed in the play. Justify your answer with suitable incidents. [4]

Question 2

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

Antony: Gentlemen all—alas! what shall I say?
 My credit now stands on such slippery ground,
 That one of two bad ways you must conceit me,
 Either a coward or a flatterer.
 That I did love thee, Caesar, O'tis true:
 If then thy spirit look upon us now,
 Shall it not grieve thee dearer than thy death,

- (i) Who are the 'Gentlemen' referred to by Antony? Which sight, according to Antony would make Caesar *grieve dearer than death*? [3]
- (ii) Immediately after the above extract, to whom does Antony compare Caesar and the *gentlemen*? Explain the comparisons. [3]
- (iii) Which two requests does Antony make to Brutus later in the scene? What are the conditions put forward by Brutus for granting these requests? [3]
- (iv) Towards the end of the scene, Antony says, 'Over thy wounds now do I prophesy'. What are the *wounds* compared to? In his *prophecy*, what does Antony say about Caesar's spirit? [3]
- (v) 'Antony proves himself to be *a true friend* and *an able military commander*'. Justify this statement with two incidents each from the play. [4]

The Winslow Boy : Terence Rattigan.

Question 3

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

Dickie : Have you been sacked?

Ronnie nods.

Bad luck. What for?

Ronnie : I didn't do it!

Dickie (*reassuringly*) : No, of course you didn't.

Ronnie : Honestly, I didn't.

Dickie : That's all right, old chap. No need to go on about it. I believe you.

Ronnie : You don't.

Dickie : Well, I don't know what it is they've sacked you for yet –

- (i) Where are Dickie and Ronnie at this time? Why has Ronnie been sacked?
How does Dickie react to this revelation? [3]
- (ii) Where has Dickie arrived from? Who has he been talking about when he enters the house? What is his opinion of this person? [3]
- (iii) What are the contents of the letter brought by Ronnie for Arthur? [3]
- (iv) Give an account of the conversation Arthur has with Ronnie when he realises that the latter has been sacked. What does Arthur do immediately after this conversation? [3]
- (v) State your opinion of Ronnie in the play. How is his character different from that of Dickie, his brother? [4]

Question 4

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

Arthur : My son is arriving from school in a few minutes. His mother has gone to the station to meet him.

Miss Barnes (*Making a note*) : From school? How interesting. So you got a school to take him? I mean, they didn't mind the unpleasantness?

Arthur : No.

Miss Barnes : And why is he coming back this time?

Arthur : He hasn't been expelled again, if that is what you're implying. He is coming to London to be examined by Sir Robert Morton, whom we are hoping to brief—

Miss Barnes : Sir Robert Morton! (*She whistles appreciatively.*) Well!

- (i) Who is Miss Barnes? Describe her appearance. Account for her presence in the scene. [3]
- (ii) Explain why Miss Barnes reacts the way she does in the last line of the extract. Why does Sir Robert Morton accept the Winslow case? [3]
- (iii) What other details about the case does Arthur give Miss Barnes? [3]
- (iv) What does Miss Barnes do when Grace and Ronnie enter? Which actions of hers reveal that she is not really interested in the case? [3]
- (v) How has the play appealed to you? Comment on the way the play ends. [4]

SECTION B – POETRY

Wings of Poesy

Question 5

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

Bowed by the weight of centuries he leans
Upon his hoe and gazes on the ground,
The emptiness of ages in his face,
And on his back the burden of the world.
Who made him dead to rapture and despair,
A thing that grieves not and that never hopes,
Stolid and stunned, a brother to the ox?

(The Man with the Hoe by Edwin Markham)

- (i) Which three phrases from the extract best describe the despair of the man with the hoe? [3]
- (ii) What three questions does the poet pose immediately after the above extract? [3]

- (iii) Later in the poem, why does the poet say that 'There is no shape more terrible than this'? [3]
- (iv) Explain what the poet means by:-
- (1) *Slave of the wheel of labour*
 - (2) *Through this dread shape humanity betrayed*
 - (3) *How will you ever straighten up this shape* [3]
- (v) What is the poet's concern at the end of the poem? How relevant is the theme of the poem in the modern times? Justify your answer. [4]

Question 6

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

The hapless Nymph with wonder saw;
A whisker first and then a claw,
With many an ardent wish,
She stretched, in vain, to reach the prize.
What female heart can gold despise?
What Cat's averse to fish?

(*Ode on the Death of a Favourite Cat by Thomas Gray*)

- (i) Who is the *hapless Nymph*? Why is she *hapless*? What does a *whisker first and then a claw* indicate? [3]
- (ii) How has the *hapless Nymph* been described earlier in the poem? [3]
- (iii) What is the *hapless Nymph's* first reaction at seeing the prize? How has the prize been described? [3]
- (iv) Later in the poem, why is the *hapless Nymph* referred to as a *Presumptuous Maid* and *Fate as Malignant*? What happens to the *hapless Nymph* ultimately? [3]
- (v) State any two moral lessons contained in the poem. Explain their significance in the present times. [4]

SECTION C – PROSE

A Miscellany of Short Stories

Question 7

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

That, more or less, is the way in which I should have liked to forgive Potter, if my hostess had given me a chance. For it was quite impossible for a truth-loving man to pretend that the disruption of the spectacle-frame did not matter. It mattered extremely indeed, since my pair of emergency spectacles, having suffered a similar disaster, was at the moment in the hands of an optician.

- (i) How is Potter responsible for the *disruption of the spectacle-frame*? Describe his feelings of guilt. How does the hostess console Potter? [3]
- (ii) What *is the way* in which the narrator would have liked to forgive Potter? Which three aspects of human nature are served by this approach? [3]
- (iii) How does the hostess try to help the narrator? Why does this method fail? [3]
- (iv) *The narrator's weekend turns out to be a miserable one.* Give an account of *three* activities the narrator tries to involve himself in without his spectacles. [3]
- (v) What is the narrator's experience of long-sightedness in his childhood? Describe his encounter with the oculist when he visits him towards the end of the war. [4]

Question 8

Happiness does not necessarily mean riches and comfort. One can find it even in a life devoid of material wealth, if there is love. Discuss the above statement with close reference to the story *Happiness*. [16]

The Village by the Sea : Anita Desai

Question 9

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

Their horns painted pink and crimson, the milk-white bullocks thundered over the sand, the wooden carts lumbering after them, the drivers in their bright new turbans shouting themselves hoarse as they waved their whips in the air and urged them along.

"Biju's cart – Biju's bullocks – Biju's won!" A shout went up at the far end of the beach and was passed back through the crowds on the dunes.

- (i) Which event has been described in the above extract? Where does it take place? Describe the event which takes place immediately after this. [3]
- (ii) Give reasons why Biju was not always admired by the villagers. Why has their attitude changed now? [3]
- (iii) What are Hari's plans for the future as described to the birdwatcher just before the above extract? [3]
- (iv) What does the birdwatcher tell Hari that fills him with the confidence he needed? [3]
- (v) Describe, with suitable reasons, the mood of Hari and his sisters towards the end of the novel. How is the end linked with the beginning of the novel? [4]

Question 10

Describe Hari's visit to Jagu's house and his encounter with the latter's wife. [16]

Three Men in a Boat : Jerome K. Jerome

Question 11

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

Montmorency hailed this compromise with much approval. He does not revel in romantic solitude. Give him something noisy; and if a trifle low, so much the jollier. To look at Montmorency you would imagine that he was an angel sent upon the earth, for some reason withheld from mankind, in the shape of a small fox-terrier.

- (i) What is the *compromise* hailed by Montmorency? Explain what is meant by, *He does not revel in romantic solitude*. [3]
- (ii) What does the expression on Montmorency's face convey to the world? What is the author's impression of Montmorency when he first comes to live with him? [3]
- (iii) Narrate any three incidents involving Montmorency that make the author change his opinion of him. [3]
- (iv) What is Montmorency's *idea of life*? Give a detailed account. [3]
- (v) Later in the story, *Montmorency is the cause of pandemonium in the lobby of Haymarket Stores*. Describe the incident. [4]

Question 12

Give a detailed account of Harris' visit to the maze at Hampton Court and his getting lost in the maze. [16]



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