

ST. GREGORIOS HIGH SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS 07

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STD. X TIME : 2 HRS SUB : ENGLISH LITERATURE MARKS : 80

NOTE : You will NOT be allowed to write during the first 10 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.

ANSWER ANY FIVE
JULIUS CAESAR

- I. Cassius : It may be, these apparent prodigies
The unaccustom'd terror of this night,
And the persuasion of his augurers,
May hold him from the Capital today.
- Decius : Never fear that. If he be so
resolv'd,
I can o'ersway him.
- a. Give two instances each of 'The unaccustom'd terror of this night' as described by Casca and Calpurnia. [4]
b. How had Calpurnia interpreted this? Why? [2]
c. Who had asked the augurers for help? Why? [3]
d. What advice did they give? On what evidence did they offer this advice? [3]
e. How does Decius intend to persuade this person to come to the Capitol. [4]
- II. Cassius : Brutus, bait not me.
I'll not endure it. You forget yourself,
To hedge me in. I am a soldier, I
Older in practice, abler than yourself
To make conditions.
- Brutus : Go to; you are not Cassius.
- a. What had Brutus just said to 'bait' Cassius so? [4]
b. What does Cassius mean by, 'I older in practice, abler than yourself, To make conditions'. [4]

- b. Do you agree with Cassius, upto this point in the play, that he is abler than Brutus 'to make conditions'? Give a reason.
- c. How does this rift between the two leaders end? Who had tried to intervene? With what result? [4]
- d. State with reasons which of the two, Brutus or Cassius, is the 'better' soldier when it comes to strategy in planning a battle. [4]

SECTION - B
(WHISPERS OF IMMORTALITY)

III. But I am done with apple picking now.
Essence of winter sleep is on the night.

- a. Why does the speaker say that he is done with apple picking, for the time being? What evidence in the poem, suggests that the task is incomplete? [4]
- b. What does the speaker use, to help him to pick/reach the apples? Give the symbolic purpose of it, in the poem. [2]
- c. Explain the form of the dream, the speaker was going to have. State its significance to his life. [4]
- d. What sort of apples were kept aside? Why? For what purpose were they used? [3]
- e. What is the poet trying to convey through this poem? [3]

IV. I pass through the pores of the ocean and shores;
I change, but I cannot die.
For after the rain when with never a stain
The pavilion of Heaven is bare,
And the winds and sunbeams with their convex gleams
Build up the blue dome of air,
I silently laugh at my own cenotaph.....

- a. On which scientific principle is this poem based? How does the poet use 'personification' to explain it in this stanza? [4]
- b. Explain - 'I change, but I cannot die' with 2 examples . [4]
Explain the similes used, describe the reappearance of the cloud.
- c. How does the cloud compare itself earlier to a war hero? [4]

- d. What imagery does the poet use to describe Nature during Sunrise and Sunset? [4]

AN ANTHOLOGY OF SHORT STORIES

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

"My precious darling!" wailed the mother.

"She will die of fright! Open the door! Oh, break it open! Can't you men do something?"

- a. Where does the above episode take place? Why was the mother crying? [3]
 b. Who came to the rescue of the mother? How did the person succeed in his task? [3]
 c. Describe the earlier life of this successful person. [4]
 d. Why and how did his life change? [3]
 e. What is the surprise ending of this story? [3]

- VI. In the story 'Martyr's Corner', discuss how the author brings out the fact that 'nothing is as constant ^{as} change. [16]

GOOD LUCK!