

Half Yearly Examination 2018-2019
English Literature

Class : X

Time : 2Hrs.

Full Marks : 80

Attempt five questions in all

Section A — DRAMA

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

Question 1

How Sweet is the moonlight sleeps upon this bank
Here will we sit, and let the sounds of music
Creep in our ears : soft stillness and the night
Become the touches of sweet harmony.

- (i) Where does the scene take place ? Who enter the scene?
Where are they ? [3]
- (ii) What, according to the Elizabethan view of music, are the
orbs said to be doing ? What has Lorenzo said about
music before this extract ? [3]
- (iii) Give the meanings of the following :- [3]
 - (a) patines of bright gold
 - (b) floor of heaven
 - (c) touches of sweet harmony.
- (iv) What effect does sweet music have on Jessica ? Explain:
'Wake Diana with a hymn.' [3]

{Turn Over}

- (v) What effect, according to Lorenzo, does music have on animals and men ? How are the objects in nature affected by the music played by Orpheus ? [4]

Question 2

Tis mightiest in the mightiest : it becomes
The throned monarch better than his crown,
His sceptre shows the force of temporal power,
The attribute to awe and majesty.

- (i) How is mercy the 'mightiest in the mightiest' ? What is a 'sceptre' ? [2+1]
- (ii) Why is mercy not 'strained' ? How are its blessing twofold? [1+2]
- (iii) Why does Antonio feel that Fortune has been kind to him later in this scene ? [3]
- (iv) What does Antonio tell Bassanio to command to his wife? What, according to Antonio, should Bassanio regret for ? [3]
- (v) Shylock is impervious to all pleas of mercy. Is he justified in his unrelenting demand for revenge ? Discuss. [4]

Question 3

Lorenzo
Madam, although I speak it in your presence,
you have a noble and a true-conceit
of god - like amity : Which appears most strongly
In bearing thus the absence of your lord.

- (i) Where is Lorenzo ? Why is he here ? Who is he referring to as 'Madam' ? [3]

Question 9

"The sad eyes and the patient face of the little one touched many hearts and even knocked at them for entrance. But none opened to take her in."

- (i) What role does the child play in the life of Joe Tempson and Jane Thempson ? [4]
- (ii) Who, according to you, is the angel of the story ? Give reasons to support your answer. [4]
- (iii) How has the author shown that selflessness and compassion bring happiness not only for others but also for oneself ? [8]

- (iii) How does the narrator try to relieve the old man of his worries ? Does he prove successful ? Support your answer with instances from the story.
- (iv) Why did the old man speak 'dully' about his animals ? What makes the narrator feel that there was nothing to do about 'him' ? [3]
- (v) What is all the good luck that the old man would ever "have" ? The story is set on an Easter Sunday. How is it ironical with reference to the events in the story ? [4]

Question 8

"On the way back home she met her mother, out of breath, come to look for her, and scolding."

- (i) From where did Sibia come to pick up her fork and sickle? State the heroic deed done by her before coming to pick up her fork. [3]
- (ii) Give two reasons from the story to show that Sibia was preoccupied. What complaint did Sibia's mother have about her ?
- (iii) Describe the life and hardships of the people living in the vicinity of the forest. Cite examples to support your answer.
- (iv) What strange object did Sibia see in the water ? How did she take possession of the strange object ? Describe the object. [3]
- (v) What, according to you, was Sibia's achievement attacking the crocodile or finding the blue bead ? Elaborate. [4]

- (ii) With whom has he come ? What did Lorenzo do in order to help Jessica escape from her house ? What was Jessica's reaction on hearing the role she had to play in order to escape from her house ? [3]
- (iii) What does Portia say on hearing the above extract ? [3]
- (iv) What instructions does she give to Balthazar ? [3]
- (v) Shylock has been a cruel Jew merchant. Give various instances from the play to prove it. [4]

Section B — POETRY

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

Question 4

Some are meet for a maidens wrist,
Silver and blue as the mountain mist,
Some are flushed like the buds that dream,
On the tranquil brow of a woodland stream.

- (i) What type of bangles are befitting a maiden's wrist ? Why are silver and blue colour compared to mountain mist? [1+2]
- (ii) What is meant by the 'limpid glory of new born leaves' ? What are the new born leaves' symbolic of ? [3]
- (iii) Mention any two adjectives used by Sarojini Naidu to describe the bangles of a bride. Explain : 'marriage fire'. [3]
- (iv) For whom are the 'purple and gold flecked bangles suitable? Which phase of life do they symbolise ? What is the significance of the phrase 'fruitful pride' ? [3]

- (v) In what way do you think is the poem 'Indian in thought and spirit' ? [4]

Question 5

"The waves beside them danced, but they
out-did the sparkling waves in glee :
A poet could not be gay,
In such a jocund company !

- (i) How does the daffodils out do the waves ? What is 'jocund company'? Which 'jocund company' is the poet referring to ? [3]
- (ii) Which 'wealth' is referred to by the poet ? Explain how the wealth was brought to the poet ? [3]
- (iii) What happens to the poet when he is sometimes in a pensive mood ? What is 'bliss of solitude' ? What does the poet mean by 'inward eye' ? [3]
- (iv) How does the poet describe the flowers by using personification ? Cite examples to support your answer. [3]
- (v) Compare and contrast the poet's mood in the beginning of the poem and at the end ? How does the poem appeal to you ? [4]

Question 6

Thin logs held tight in death's still hands
was proof of human sin.
They didn't die of cold without,
They died from cold within.

- (i) What was the weather like when the people found themselves together ? How many of them were trapped ? [2+1]
- (ii) Why wouldn't the second and third man put his piece of log in the dying fire ? [3]
- (iii) What did the blackman see in his piece of wood ? Give an instance from the poem to show that his feelings were somewhat justified ? [3]
- (iv) Who among the gathering was an opportunist ? How can you say so ? [3]
- (v) Would you say that 'The cold within' is an apt title for this poem ? Give reasons for your answer. [3]

Section C — PROSE

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

Question 7

He looked at me very blankly and tiredly,
then said, having to share his worry with
some one, "The cat will be all right, I am sure.
There is no need to be unquiet about the cat.
But the others. Now what do you think about
the others'.

- (i) Why does the old man look 'blank' and 'tired' ? How can you say that the old man needed some one to talk to ? [3]
- (ii) What is the cause of old man's worry and guilt ? Who are the 'others' ? [3]