

## Quarterly Examination 2017-2018

Std. : X  
Subject : ENGLISH LITERATURE

Full Marks : 80  
Time : 2hrs.+15min.

Attempt any FIVE questions.

### The Merchant of Venice

#### Question : 1

Shylock, ".....why  
then - loss upon loss ! the thief  
gone with so much;  
And so much to find the thief;  
and no satisfaction, no revenge :  
nor no ill luck stirring....."

- (i) Who is the thief referred to in the extract ? What has the thief stolen ? What loss has Shylock suffered due to the theft ? [3]
- (ii) Who is Tubal ? Why did he go to Genoa ? What news did Tubal bring from Genoa about the thief?[3]
- (iii) What was the ill-luck that had befallen Antonio as per the report of Tubal ? What were the feelings of Shylock on hearing about Antonio's bad luck ? Give reasons for his feelings. [3]
- (iv) In what connection does the speaker use the words 'no satisfaction, no revenge' ? What instruction does the speaker give to Tubal towards the end of their conversation ? [3]
- (v) This scene makes Shylock a tragic character and gives us an impression that the Jew is "more sinned against than sinning'. Explain. [4]

#### Question : 2

Portia : Is your name Shylock ?

Shylock : Shylock is my name.

Portia : Of a strange nature is the suit you follow, yet in such rule, that the venetian law, cannot impugn you as you do proceed.

- (i) In what capacity is Portia arguing the case ? What recommendation has the duke received from the learn'd Bellario ? [3]
- (ii) What three qualities of Mercy does Portia state in her plea to the Jew ? In what way is mercy above the sceptered sway' ? [3]
- (iii) Why, according to Portia, should Justice be tempered with mercy ? Bring out the significance of the 'deeds of mercy' ? [3]
- (iv) What does shylock say in response to Portia's plea of mercy ? How does Portia respond when Bassanio tells her to 'wrest once the law' to her authority ? [3]
- (v) Explain how Portia argues the case in favour of the defendant. Comment on shylock's feelings at the beginning and at the end of the trial scene. [4]

**Question : 3**

..... Do not say  
'I love her for her smile - her  
look-her way of speaking gently

- (i) To whom are the lines addressed ? How does the speaker want her lover to love her ? [3]
- (ii) What are the things she does not want to be loved for ? What is the reason for not wanting to be loved for these particular traits ? [3]
- (iii) What is meant by 'may be changed or change for thee' ? Why doesn't the speaker want to be affected by these changes ? [3]
- (iv) What does the phrase 'wiping my checks dry' mean ? What would make the 'creature' forget to weep? What impact will it have on her beloved ? [3]
- (v) What does 'But love me for love's sake' mean ? Explain what the poetess means when she says 'thou mayst love on' Do you agree with the poet's notion of love ? Give a reason for your answer. [4]

**Question : 4**

"I'm grateful, sir, "he whispered as I handed my canteen And smiled a smile that was, I think.....

- (i) Why did 'I' feel grateful ? There has been mention of smile earlier in the poem. How is the smile described each time ? [3]
- (ii) What did the man consider silly ? Why ? [3]
- (iii) What does the man go on to say about his wife and mother ? [3]
- (iv) Which qualities of the soldier boy do you like the most ? Why ? [3]
- (v) Do you think the title of the poem is appropriate ? Justify. [4]

**Question : 5**

'Do you know the government is helping poor farmers ?'

'No, but who are you ? A tout or..... ?'

'Journalist, chacha, are you afraid of me ?'

- (i) Introduce both the 'journalist' and 'chacha'. [3]
- (ii) With what purpose was the government trying to help the poor farmers ? Why was the person spoken to not happy about the proposal of the government ? [3]
- (iii) Give examples from the story to show that the common man was not happy before and now. [3]
- (iv) Why did the 'journalist' feel helpless when the person spoken to left abruptly ? What were the unending problems faced by the journalist back home ? [3]
- (v) What, according to you, is the author trying to uphold for her readers through the story 'Hunger' ? How do you think this serious problem can be resolved ? [4]

**Question : 6**

'Journey by Night' is a tale of triumph of human courage. Elaborate.

[16]