

**Quarterly Examination 2018-2019**  
**English Literature**

**Class : X**

**Time : 2 hrs.+15 Mins.**

**Full Marks : 80**

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(Answer **five** questions in all including one question atleast from each section.)

**Section A : Drama**

**Q1. Shylock :** I have possessed' your Grace of what I purpose.  
And by our holy Sabbath have in sworn To have the due  
and forfeit of my bond.

- (i) Explain 'holy Sabbath'. What had the speaker sworn? [3]
- (ii) Give the meanings of :
  - a) character
  - b) a weight of carrion flesh
  - c) rough hearts of flints [3]
- (iii) What examples does Shylock put forth to prove that personal inclination is the ruler of any emotion ?[3]
- (iv) What reasons are given by the speaker for hating Antonio ? What does he mean by a 'losing suit' ?[3]
- (v) Comment and contrast between the character traits of shylock and Antonio as brought out in the scene.[4]

**Q2. Portia :** Now, Balthazaar,  
As I have ever found thee honest- true so let me find thee  
still...

*{Turn Over}*

- (i) What is the speaker's opinion about Balthazar ? What instructions does she give him ? [3]
- (ii) Who is Doctor Bellario ? What does the speaker want Balthazar to fetch from Dr. Bellario ? [3]
- (iii) How was Portia planning to make her husband believe that she was equipped with the qualities that she lacked in reality ? [3]
- (iv) Give the meanings :
- a) traject
  - b) braggin youth
  - c) two mincing steps. [3]
- (v) Discuss the character traits of Portia based on the scene. [4]

**Q3. Shylock :** My our flesh and blood to rebet.

**Salerio :** There is more difference between thy flesh and hers.

- (i) How does Salerio bring out the difference between Shylock and his daughter ? [3]
- (ii) Which incident was being discussed just before the extract ? What were the reactions of Shylock and Salerio ? [3]
- (iii) Give the meanings of
- a) prodigal
  - b) Rialto
  - c) bankrupt [3]

(iv) Who was Tubal ? What had he heard in Genoa ?  
What was Shylock's reaction ? [3]

(v) 'The villainy you teach me I will execute and it shall  
go hard but I will better the instruction'.

With close reference to the above statement, discuss  
how far do you think that Shylock was a racist. [4]

### **Section B : (Poetry)**

**Q4.** There's nobody on the house-tops now  
Just a palsied few as the windows set  
For the best of the sight is, all allow  
At the shambles' Gate - Or, better yet.

(i) Who are there on the house-tops now ? Who were  
there a year ago ? What has brought about the  
change ? [3]

(ii) What difference is seen in people's attitude towards  
the patriot earlier and now ? [3]

(iii) What is referred to as 'the best of the sight' ? Why? [3]

(iv) Give the meaning and significance of :

(a) I go in the rain.

(b) my forehead bleeds. [3]

(v) Where is the speaker being taken ? Why ? State  
whether this action is justified. [2+2]

**Q5.** The angel wrote, and vanished. The next  
night It come again with a great wakening light  
And showed....

(i) What did the angel write just before vanishing ? What

*{Turn Over}*

was the angel writing earlier ? Describe how the room looked when the angel made its first entry. [3]

- (ii) Describe what happened the night after the angel vanished. [3]
- (iii) Briefly give a character sketch of Abou Ben Adhem.[3]
- (iv) Explain the following lines : [3]
  - a) It came again with a great wakening light.
  - b) And lo! Ben Adheni's name led all the rest.
- (v) Give an example of simile from the poem. What makes the poem seem as if it belonged to the realm of the supernatural ? [4]

**Q6.** The free bird thinks of another breeze  
and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees  
and the fat worms waiting on a down bright lawn.

- (i) To what does 'another breeze' refer ? What is meant by sighing trees ? [3]
- (ii) What good things of the earth are waiting for the free bird ? [3]
- (iii) Give the meaning and significance of : [3]
  - (a) And he names the sky his own.
  - (b) But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams.
- (iv) How can you conclude that
  - a) the caged bird is frustrated
  - b) it is without freedom
  - c) it is struggling to express itself. [3]

- (v) Explain in detail how the theme of 'Freedom versus Enslavement' serves as the backbone of the poem.[4]

**Section C - Prose**

**Q7.** The silence was so immense and unbelievable that you felt your ears had been stuffed or you had lost your hearing altogether.

- (i) What caused silence on the planet Venus ? How did the children react ? [3]
- (ii) Give the meaning and significance of : 'The door slid back and the smell of the silent, waiting world come into them.' [3]
- (iii) How does the author describe nature, sky and the jungle where the sun comes out ? [3]
- (iv) Give a brief description of children's activities as soon as the sun comes out. [3]
- (v) Where was Margot at that time ? Why ? Do you think the sight of the sun had changed the childrens' attitude in any way ? Explain. [2+2]

**Q8.** Suddenly all the tension seemed to ebb out of my body as the truth of what he said hit me. Confidently. I draw a line full foot towards the back of the board and proceeded to jump from there.

- (i) Why was Owens tensed ? What released his tension? [3]
- (ii) What was the Nazis' Aryan - superiority theory ? Explain. [3]
- (iii) What did Owens do the night he qualified for the finals ? [3]

*{Turn Over}*

- (iv) Briefly state how Luz and Owens performed in the finals. [3]
- (v) Luz wanted Owens to do his best in the finals - even if that meant his own defeat. How does it reflect the theme of Owen's autobiographical account ? [4]
- Q9.** (i) Give a brief character sketch of Chief Seattle. [4]
- (i) Summarise the environmental concerns of the Red Indians. [4]
- (iii) Explain the 'clash of civilization' with close reference to the Red Indians' belief systems and those of the whites. [8]