

Attempt FIVE questions in all.

You must attempt at least ONE question from each of the SECTION A,B and C and NOT MORE THAN TWO QUESTIONS from each section.

Section A – Drama

Question 1

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

Shylock-

There I have another bad match: a bankrupt , a prodigal,
Who dare scarce show his head on the Rialto; a beggar,

That was used to come so smug upon the mart; let him
Look to his bond: he was wont to lend money for a
Christian courtesy; let him look to his bond.

Salarino-

Why, I am sure, if he forfeit, thou wilt not take his flesh:
What's that good for?

- i) What is meant by a 'bankrupt' as well as a 'prodigal'? Why has the man gone bankrupt? Why is he called a prodigal? (3)
- ii) What is known as Rialto? Why was the man said to go 'so smug upon the mart'? (3)
- iii) Give some incidents to show that the man referred to in the extract used to insult Shylock. (3)
- iv) How did the 'bankrupt' cause loss to Shylock in Venice? (3)
- v) How is the bankrupt likely to go into a loss? How will such a loss affect Shylock as far as his revenge and financial position is concerned? (4)

Question 2

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

Portia-

Now he goes,

With no less presence, but with much more love,
Than young Alcides, when he did redeem
The virgin tribute paid by howling Troy
To the sea-monster: I stand for sacrifice;
The rest aloof are the Dardanian wives,
With bleared visages, come forth to view

The issue of the exploit. Go, Hercules!

i) Who is Aleides? What is the 'virgin tribute'? How did Aleides save the virgin tribute ?

(3)

ii) In what way is Bassino compared to young Aledies? Why does Portia here 'stand for sacrifice'?

(3)

iii) Give the meaning of:

(3)

a) Howling Troy:

b) Bleared visages:

c) The issue of the exploit:

iv) What are 'The rest aloof' referred to in the extract? Who are the Dardanian Wives? What were the wives doing in the scene when Aleides was saving the virgin tribute?

(3)

v) Why does Portia say, 'Go, Hercules'? What will she be doing at the same time?

(4)

Question 3

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

Bassanio –

There is no vice so simple but assumes
Some mark of virtue on his outward parts;
How many cowards, whose hearts are all as false
As stairs of sand, wear yet upon their chins
The beards of Hercules and frowning Mars;
Who, inward search'd, have livers white as milk;
And these assume but valour's excrement
To render them redoubted !

i) Which theme in the play is highlighted in the above extract? How is it highlighted?

(3)

ii) How can vice assume the external show of virtue?

(3)

iii) What are 'stairs of sand'? To what are these stairs compared?

(3)

iv) Give the meaning of the following:

(3)

“ Have livers white as milk.”

v) Who is Hercules and who is frowning Mars? What are they, with their beards known for?

(4)

Section- B (Poetry)

Question 4

Bangle Sellers are we who bear
Our shining loads to the temple fair
Who will buy these delicate, bright
Rainbow – tinted circles of light?

Lustrous tokens of radiant lives,
For happy daughters and happy wives.

- i) Who is the speaker in the poem and what is he describing? (3)
- ii) How are the bangles described in the first stanza of the poem? (3)
- iii) Explain the line 'lustrous tokens of radiant lives?' (3)
- iv) What is the tone in this stanza? Quote. (3)
- v) Does the poem have feministic overtones? (4)

Question 5

They say it was a shocking sight
After the field was won;
For many thousand bodies here
Lay rotting in the sun;
But things like that, you know, must be
After a famous victory.

- i) How does Kasper justify the thousands of deaths in the war? (3)
- ii) How does the poet describe the scene on the field after the battle? (3)
- iii) What was the great victory? Who had won the victory? (3)
- iv) How do the skulls symbolize the theme in "The Battle of Blenheim"? (3)
- v) What do you think of the old man's point of view? (4)

Question 6

Continuous as the stars that shine

And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never – ending line
Along the margin of the bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

- i) What were the daffodils doing? Which literary device is used here. (3)
- ii) What is being compared to the stars and why? (3)
- iii) What does Wordsworth compare the Daffodils to? Is the comparison appropriate? (3)
- iv) Who are 'they' referred to in the third line of the stanza? When had the poet come across them? (3)
- v) What do you think is the message of the poem? (4)

SECTION –C (SHORT STORIES)

Question 7

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

- i) Who looked at whom blankly and tiredly? Why? (3)
- ii) Which cat is being referred to? Why is there no need 'to be unquite about the cat'? (3)
- iii) Who are the others? (3)
- iv) Why is the speaker worried about the others? (3)
- v) What aspect of the speaker is evident from his concern about 'others'? (4)

Question 8

There was nothing to do about him. It was Easter Sunday and the Fascists were advancing toward the Ebro. It was a gray overcast day with a low ceiling so their planes were not up. That and the fact that cats know how to look after themselves was all the good luck that Old man would ever have.

- i) Who is 'him' referred to in the beginning of the passage? Describe him. (3)
ii) What happened on the Easter Sunday? (3)
iii) What image is formed in your mind while reading the passage? (3)
iv) What 'good luck' did the old man have? (3)
v) Why is it referred to as 'good luck'? Is it really 'good luck'? (4)

Question 9

Muni's was the last house in the fourth street, beyond which stretched the fields. In his prosperous days Muni had owned a flock of forty sheep and goats and sallied forth every morning driving the flock to the highway a couple of miles away. There he would sit on the pedestal of a clay statue of a horse while his cattle grazed around.

- i) Who is Muni? Make a note on the present financial state of Muni. (3)
ii) What does Muni do throughout the day? (3)
iii) Make a brief note about the character of Muni? (3)
iv) Briefly explain the significance of the horse statue in the story? (3)
v) What were the possessions of Muni, in his prosperous days? (4)

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