

Quarterly Examination - 2018-19

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Class : VIII

Time : 2 Hrs. 15 mints

Full Marks : 80

Attempt 5 questions in total

Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow : (16x5=80)

1. He stared at this in amazement. It was an empty bandage, a bandage properly tied but quite empty. He would have advanced to grasp it, but a touch arrested him, and a voice spoke quite close to him.
 - a) Who is 'he' here? Where did 'he' notice the blood-stained bandage? (3)
 - b) What do you understand by "a touch arrested him" ? (3)
 - c) How did the voice introduce himself? Why did he have a bandage on? (3)
 - d) What do you perceive about the character of the Invisible Man from his behaviour? (3)
 - e) Why did 'he' stare at the bandage in amazement? (4)
2. 'Man!' he snapped. 'A man's cub. Look!
 - a) What did the man cub look like? (3)
 - b) How did the Father Wolf pick up the man cub without hurting him? (3)
 - c) How do you come to know that the man cub was quite bold? (3)
 - d) What was the Father Wolf's opinion about the man cub? (3)

- e) Who do you think was the man cub's primary protector? Justify your answer. What was the name of the protector? (4)
3. The old lady sank down into a chair and laughed a little, then cried a little, then did both together.
- a) Who is the old lady? What does she look like when she reaches Tom's bedside? (3)
- b) What did Tom say that made the old lady laugh and cry at the same time? Why? (3)
- c) What sort of a boy does Tom appear to be? (3)
- d) Why does Tom feel miserable on a Monday morning? What did he always wish on that day? (3)
- e) Is the old lady affectionate towards Tom? How do you know? (3)
4. He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.
- a) Who is 'he' being referred to here? Why does he give his harness bells a shake? (3)
- b) Why does 'he' feel as if there has been some mistake? (3)
- c) What is the figure of speech used in the above extract? Please highlight and explain. (3)
- d) What do you think the relationship of 'he' was like with the poet? (3)
- e) Name the poem from which the above extract has been taken. Also name the poet. State the basic theme of the poem. (4)

5. What do you weave, O ye flower-girls?
With tassels of azure and red?
Crown for the brow of the bridegroom,
Chaplets to garland his bed,
Sheets of white blossoms new-gathered
To perfume the sleep of the dead.
- a) Whom did Sarojini Naidu address in the stanza just before the one given above? What were they selling? (3)
- b) What do you understand by 'tassels of azure and red'? (3)
- c) The above stanza appeals to which senses? Explain briefly. (3)
- d) What is alliteration? Give two examples of alliteration from the poem. (3)
- e) How does this stanza remind us that life comes full circle? (4)
6. With every movement that the scorpion made
his poison moved in Mother's blood, they said.
May he sit still, they said.
May the sins of your previous birth
be burned away tonight, they said.
- a) Why did the peasants with that the scorpion "sit still"? (3)
- b) What did the peasants say about the sins of the victim? (3)
- c) Did the peasants believe in rebirth? Support your answer with reference from the poem. (3)
- d) What were the peasants compared to? Quote the line which carries forward this comparison. What is the figure of speech used in this case? (3)
- e) What is the significance of "giant scorpion shadows"? (4)