
LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

ENGLISH Paper – 2

(Two hours)

Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

You will **not** be allowed to write during the first **15** minutes.

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt **five** questions in all from only **three** text books.

You must attempt at least **one** question from each of the **Sections A, B and C** and **not more than two other questions** from the same books you have already compulsorily chosen.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

SECTION A – DRAMA

Answer one or more questions from **only ONE** of the following plays:

The Merchant of Venice

or

The Mousetrap

The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare

Question 1.

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

Shylock: *Therefore I part with him; and part with him*

To the one that I would have him help to waste

His borrow'd purse- Well Jessica, go in:

Perhaps I will return immediately:

Do as I bid you; shut the doors after you:

Fast bind, fast find;

A proverb never stale in thrifty mind.

- (i) Shylock says, “*Therefore I part with him;*” From whom does Shylock part? [3]
Why does Shylock not bid a tearful adieu to ‘him’?
- (ii) Where is Shylock going? What does Shylock “bid” Jessica to do prior to these lines? [3]
- (iii) Explain the line: ‘Fast bind, fast find;’. What does Shylock want to ‘find’? [3]
Bring out the irony in these words.
- (iv) What reasons does Shylock give for his unwillingness to leave the house? [3]
- (v) Racial prejudice is a major theme in the preceding scenes. However, Jessica is portrayed as an exception. Use examples from the text to demonstrate how Jessica is shown to be different from her father and others of her community. [4]

Question 2.

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

Arragon: *What many men desire! That “many ” may be meant*

By the fool multitude, that choose by show,

Not learning more than the fond eye doth teach;

Which pries not to the interior, but like the martlet ,

Builds in the weather on the outward wall,

Even in the force and road of casualty.

I will not choose what many men desire,

- (i) Why is Arragon in this place? What is the inscription that he has just read, [3]
and on which casket was it found?

- (ii) List the conditions that Arragon had to promise to abide by before he was allowed to choose a casket. [3]
- (iii) Explain in your own words, the comparison that Arragon makes between the martlet and the foolish multitude. [3]
- (iv) Which casket does Arragon eventually choose? What does he find inside the casket that he chooses? [3]
- (v) How does Arragon respond when he discovers that he had made the wrong choice? What does this reveal about Arragon's character? [4]

Question 3.

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

*Nerissa: Your father was an ever virtuous: and holy men
at their death have good inspirations:
therefore, the lottery, that he hath devised
in these three chests of gold, silver and
lead, -whereof who chooses his meaning
chooses you, - will, no doubt, never
be chosen by any rightly but one who shall rightly love.*

- (i) What are the terms of the lottery referred to in the above extract? Who devised it? [3]
- (ii) How do you know that Portia was not happy with this lottery? [3]
- (iii) Name any six suitors who came to woo Portia. [3]
- (iv) What does Nerissa say to comfort Portia? What is Nerissa's opinion of Portia's father? [3]
- (v) Which casket does the Prince of Morocco choose? What leads him to make this choice? [4]

The Mousetrap: Agatha Christie

Question 4.

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

Mollie: (Moving down to the sofa and sitting) Oh! I do so want everything to go well at first. First impressions are so important.

Giles: (Moving to Right of the sofa) Is everything ready? Nobody's arrived yet, I suppose?

Mollie: No, thank goodness. I think everything's in order. Mrs. Barlow's hooked it early. Afraid of the weather I suppose.

- (i) Where does this conversation take place? [3]
Give a brief description of the weather outside.
- (ii) What **two** words would you use to describe Mollie's state of mind in the above extract? On whom do Giles and Mollie wish to make a favourable impression? [3]
- (iii) Who arrives shortly after Mollie and Giles exchange these words? [3]
What explanation does this person offer for his name?
- (iv) When introduced to Mollie, this person says, "You know, you are not at all as I'd pictured you." How had he pictured her? [3]
- (v) Who arrives next? What complaints does this person make on arrival? [4]
What is your impression of this person?

Question 5.

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

Giles: Here's Miss Casewell, Mollie. My wife.

Miss Casewell: (Rising) How d'you do?

(She shakes hands with Mollie vigorously.)

Mollie: It's an awful night. Would you like to come up to your room?
The water's hot if you'd like a bath.

Miss Casewell: You're right, I would.

- (i) What does Mollie mean when she says, "It's an awful night."? [3]
What awful thing had happened earlier that day?
- (ii) What does Christopher Wren do as soon as Mollie and Miss Casewell leave [3]
the room?
- (iii) What concern does Mollie express to Giles when she returns? [3]
- (iv) What does Giles have to say about each of the guests who have arrived? [3]
- (v) Who is the next visitor to arrive after Miss Casewell? Describe this person. [4]

Question 6.

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

Christopher Wren: *I was a mere child at the time. I don't remember even hearing about it.*

Trotter: *(moving behind the sofa table) And that's all you have to say – any of you?*

(There is silence)

(moving centre)

Well, if any of you gets murdered, you'll have yourself to blame. Now then, Mr Ralston, can I have a look round the house?

- (i) What is Wren referring to when he says 'I don't remember even hearing about *it*.' [3]
- (ii) How does Trotter introduce himself to Giles on his arrival? [3]
How did Trotter manage to reach Monkswell Manor?

- (iii) What comment does Mrs.Boyle make about Trotter’s means of transport? [3]
How would you describe her nature?
- (iv) Later when Mrs Boyle is alone in the room, what does she hear? [3]
What did the audience see as soon as she turns back to the radio?
- (v) What makes Mollie uneasy as she nears the room? [4]
What does she see when she enters it?

SECTION B – POETRY

Answer *one or more* questions from this Section.

A Collection of Poems

Question 7.

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

*He plants the forest’s heritage
The harvest of a coming age
The joy that unborn eyes shall see
These things he plants who plants a tree.*

- (i) Explain how a tree is the ‘forest’s heritage’. [3]
- (ii) What is meant by ‘mother-croon of bird’? [3]
How do birds sing? When do they sing?
- (iii) What is the ‘treble of heaven’s harmony’? [3]
- (iv) How far is a tree ‘the harvest of a coming age’? [3]
- (v) What stirs the heart of a man who plants a tree? [4]
How does a tree planter do civic good?

Question 8.

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

*The last man of this forlorn group
Did nought except for gain.
Giving only to those who gave
Was how he played the game.*

- (i) Why does the poet call the group 'forlorn'? Who were the people who made up this group? What did each of them possess? [3]
- (ii) What prevents the woman and the poor man in the group from sharing what they have? [3]
- (iii) Why did the rich man sit back? What was his opinion of the poor? [3]
- (iv) Explain how the black man saw in this situation an opportunity for revenge. [3]
- (v) What happens to this group of people at the end of the story? What could they have done to change their fate? Justify the title of the poem, 'The Cold Within'. [4]

Question 9.

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

*For oft, when on my couch I lie,
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude.*

- (i) Who is the speaker? Describe the sight that greeted his eyes when he was out walking in the countryside. [3]
- (ii) Where were the daffodils growing? To what does the poet compare the flowers? [3]

- (iii) What effect does the scene have on the poet? [3]
- (iv) What is the 'wealth' mentioned in the poem? [3]
How do the daffodils outdo the waves?
- (v) Compare the poet's mood at the start of the poem with his mood at the end. What do you suppose causes this change in mood? [4]

SECTION C – PROSE

Answer one or more questions from **only ONE** of the following books that you have studied:

A Collection of Short Stories

or

Animal Farm

or

The Call of the Wild

A Collection of Short Stories

Question 10.

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

"What are you doing out here, boy?" asked Mr. Oliver sharply, moving closer so that he could recognize the miscreant. But even as he approached the boy, Mr. Oliver senses that something was wrong. The boy appeared to be crying.

(Face in the Dark- Ruskin Bond)

- (i) Who was Mr. Oliver? How did he usually spend his evenings? [3]
- (ii) Mention any three facts about the school at which he worked. [3]
- (iii) Where did Mr. Oliver find the boy? [3]
How could he tell that the boy was 'weeping'?
What made Mr. Oliver feel uneasy?

- (iv) What did Mr. Oliver see when the boy finally looked up? [3]
What was Mr. Oliver's immediate reaction?
- (v) To whom does Mr. Oliver turn for help? [4]
What does he discover about this person?
Mention any two effective methods that the author has used to create an eerie atmosphere in the story 'A Face in the Dark'.

Question 11.

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

It was my business to cross the bridge, explore the bridgeheads beyond and find out to what point the enemy had advanced. I did this and returned over the bridge. There were not so many carts now and very few people on foot, but the old man was still there.

(Old Man at the Bridge- Ernest Hemingway)

- (i) Describe the old man seated near the bridge. [3]
- (ii) Describe the scene at the bridge at the beginning of the story. [3]
- (iii) What was the narrator's duty? [3]
- (iv) Why did the old man have to leave his home? [3]
Why was he the last one to leave town?
- (v) How does Hemingway show us the effect of war on the lives of common people through the story of the Old Man at the Bridge? [4]

Question 12.

Answer the following questions with reference to T.S. Arthur's short story, 'An Angel in Disguise':

- (a) How did the children's mother die? [4]
What did the villagers decide to do about the children?
- (b) What did Joe see when he looked in through the brightly lit window of his home later that evening? [4]
Why does this scene fill him with a sense of relief?
- (c) How does the author describe Mrs. Thompson initially? Trace the change in Mrs. Thompson's nature from the time that Maggie enters the Thompsons' home. [8]

Animal Farm: George Orwell

Question 13.

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

Three nights later old major died peacefully in his sleep. His body was buried at the foot of the orchard.

This was early in March. During the next three months there was much secret activity. Major's speech had given to the more intelligent animals on the farm a completely new outlook on life. They did not know when the Rebellion predicted by Major would take place, they had no reason for thinking that it would be within their own lifetime, but they saw clearly that it was their duty to prepare for it.

- (i) What role did the pigs play in preparing for the rebellion? [3]
How has Squealer been described soon after?
- (ii) Which concept was termed 'Animalism'? [3]
How were these ideas received by the other animals in the beginning?

- (iii) How did Moses describe Sugar candy Mountain? [3]
- (iv) What was the immediate cause for the animals to rebel against their human masters? [3]
- (v) What human traits have been given to Snowball and Napoleon? [4]

Question 14.

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

As for the pigs, they could already read and write perfectly. The dogs learned to read perfectly well, but were not interested in reading anything but the seven commandments. Muriel, the goat, could read somewhat better than the dogs, and sometimes used to read to the others in the evenings from scraps of newspaper which she found on the rubbish heap.

- (i) What difficulty did Boxer have in learning the alphabet? [3]
- (ii) Why was it necessary to summarise the seven commandments to one single maxim? What was this single maxim? [3]
- (iii) What were Napoleon's views on education? [3]
What did he do with Jessie's and Bluebell's puppies?
- (iv) What differences could soon be seen between the pigs and the other animals on Animal Farm now? [3]
- (v) How does Squealer rationalise the injustice of the milk and apples going to the pigs? [4]

Question 15.

With reference to George Orwell's "The Animal Farm", answer the following questions:

- (i) What rumours did Mr. Pilkington and Mr. Pinchfield spread about life at Animal Farm? [4]
- (ii) Provide four instances from the battle of the Cowshed to show that Snowball played a pivotal role in winning it for the animals. [4]
- (iii) How did the animals celebrate their victory? [8]

The Call of the Wild: Jack London

Question 16.

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

When Buck revived a little, he realized his tongue was hurt. When he heard a locomotive whistling, he knew where he was. He had travelled earlier with the judge, so he knew. He opened his eyes angrily, saw the man coming forward and attacked his hand. He let go only when the man choked him senseless.

- (i) Who had kidnapped Buck from his home? Why did he do so? [3]
- (ii) Give an account of the ill treatment meted out to Buck during the two days and nights on the Express car. [3]
- (iii) How did the man in the red sweater teach Buck a lesson? [3]
- (iv) What lesson did Buck learn from this man? [3]
- (v) Who bought Buck from the man in the red sweater? What did he learn about his new masters? What were his feelings about them? [4]

Question 17.

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

Buck's first day on the Dyea beach was like a nightmare. Every hour was filled with shock and surprise. He had been suddenly jerked from the heart of civilization and flung into the heart of things primordial. No lazy sunkissed life was this, with nothing to do but loaf and be bored. Here was neither peace, nor rest, nor a moment's safety. All was confusion and action, and every moment life and limb were in peril. There was imperative need to be constantly alert; for these dogs and men were not town dogs and men.

- (i) What was the first shock that Buck received that day? [3]
What important lesson did he learn from it?
- (ii) Buck received the second shock when he was forced to wear something. [3]
What was this thing? Why was he made to wear it?
How did Buck feel about being made to wear it?
- (iii) That afternoon, two more dogs, Billee and Joe, were added to the team. [3]
Describe these newcomers.
- (iv) Later that evening, Buck meets another husky named Sol-leks. What does [3]
the name 'Sol-leks' mean? What was Sol-leks' peculiarity?
How did Buck discover it?
- (v) What problem did Buck face that night? How did he attempt to solve it? [4]
How did he eventually find a solution?

Question 18.

Answer the following questions with reference to Jack London's, 'The Call of the Wild'.

- (i) What was Buck's reaction when he observed Francois leading Sol-leks to [4]
the coveted position which Spitz would have occupied as leader of the
team? How does Francois deal with Buck?

- (ii) How did Buck react when Francois came towards him with a heavy club in his hand? What did he recall at this time? [4]
- (iii) Describe, using references from the text, how Buck performs the role of leader of the team. [8]