

**CLASS IX**  
**SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER**  
**LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**  
**(ENGLISH PAPER – 2)**

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*Maximum Marks: 80*

*Time allowed: 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.*

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*The paper has **four** Sections.*

***Section A** is compulsory – **All** questions in **Section A** must be answered.*

*You must attempt **one** question from each of the Sections **B, C** and **D** and **one** other question from any  
Section of your choice.*

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

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**SECTION A**

*(Attempt **all** questions from this Section.)*

**Question 1**

Read the following questions and choose the most appropriate response from the choices given below (Please do not copy the question - simply write out in correct serial order the appropriate word or phrase.)

[16]

- (i) Why does Cassius send notes through Cinna, at the end of Act I? [UNDERSTANDING]
- (a) to warn Caesar about Brutus' betrayal so that he could take necessary action
  - (b) to assure Brutus that plans for the conspiracy were in place
  - (c) to remind Caesar to meet at the Capitol at the appointed time
  - (d) to convince Brutus that the Romans needed him to join the conspiracy
- (ii) Why does Brutus oppose the idea of including Cicero in their group? [UNDERSTANDING]
- (a) Brutus dislikes Cicero although the people respect him a lot
  - (b) he knows Cicero loves Caesar unconditionally
  - (c) Cicero never follows anything that other people begin
  - (d) Cicero would not like to be included in a bloody conspiracy

(iii) “*I would have had thee there and here again*

*Ere I can tell thee what thou shouldst do there.*”

These lines tell us that Portia is feeling \_\_\_\_\_.

[ANALYSIS]

- (a) angry
- (b) weak
- (c) sad
- (d) anxious

(iv) Which of the following lines reflects Caesar’s arrogance?

[UNDERSTANDING]

- (a) Danger knows well Caesar is more dangerous.
- (b) Go, bid the priest do present sacrifice.
- (c) For thy humour, I shall stay at home.
- (d) I am ashamed, I did yield to them.

(v) Select the option that shows the correct relationship between statements (1) and (2).

**Statement 1:** Flavius tells Marullus that they would have to take all the decorations off Caesar’s statues.

**Statement 2:** Flavius fears that Caesar’s growing powers would result in a life of servitude for all Romans.

[ANALYSIS]

- (a) Statement 1 is true and Statement 2 is false
- (b) Statement 2 is true and Statement 1 is false.
- (c) Statement 2 is the cause for Statement 1.
- (d) Statement 1 and Statement 2 are independent of each other.

(vi) What are the commoners celebrating in Act 1, Scene 1?

[RECALL]

- (a) Caesar’s victory over the sons of Pompey
- (b) Caesar’s victory over Pompey
- (c) The Feast of the Lupercal
- (d) The Ides of March

(vii) Choose the option that lists the sequence of events in the correct order: [UNDERSTANDING]

- (i) He noticed a pink glow coming from a giant glass object in the middle of the bamboo grove.
  - (ii) When he stepped forward to take a closer look, he felt as if an electric shock had passed through his body.
  - (iii) He grew uneasy as he became aware of an eerie silence that had suddenly descended on the world.
  - (iv) Although it was a dark, moonless night, Bonku Babu chose to take the shortcut home.
- (a) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv)
  - (b) (ii), (iii), (iv), (i)
  - (c) (iv), (iii), (i), (ii)
  - (d) (iv), (ii), (iii), (i)

(viii) *'The bowls never needed washing, because the boys cleaned them with their spoons until they shone.'*

This line means that\_\_\_\_\_.

[UNDERSTANDING]

- (a) The boys enjoyed washing their bowls
- (b) The boys never got enough to eat
- (c) The boys wanted to keep their bowls shiny
- (d) The boys did not enjoy washing bowls

(ix) How did the Manager of Pipalnagar Bank try to pacify the crowd?

[UNDERSTANDING]

- (a) by declaring that the bank had exhausted all its ready cash
- (b) by asking the crowd not to panic
- (c) by urging the crowd to come back the next day
- (d) by trying to contact the owner, Seth Govind Ram

(x) At the end of the story, 'The Home-coming', Phatik says, "Mother, the holidays have come." What does he mean?

[ANALYSIS]

- (a) His mother had come to take him home
- (b) He would be free of the miseries of life
- (c) He was homesick
- (d) He missed his brother

- (xi) Alan Trevor gave Hughie Erskine permanent entree to his studio because he liked his \_\_\_\_\_.
- [RECALL]
- (a) generous recklessness
  - (b) careless kindness
  - (c) kind carelessness
  - (d) reckless humility
- (xii) The poem, A Doctor's Journal Entry for August 6, 1945, describes the devastation caused by the \_\_\_\_\_.
- [UNDERSTANDING]
- (a) atomic explosion in the lives of ordinary people
  - (b) earthquake in Japan
  - (c) tidal waves in Japan
  - (d) volcanic eruption in Japan
- (xiii) What, according to Marge Piercy in A Work of Artifice, should begin very early with living creatures?
- [ANALYSIS]
- (a) trimming their branches
  - (b) teaching them life lessons
  - (c) assigning gender roles
  - (d) preparing them for life's struggles
- (xiv) Which of the following options contains the figure of speech that appears in the following line:
- '...where the sun came peeping in at morn...'
- [APPLICATION]
- (a) A dozen eyeballs on the floor
  - (b) Tossing their heads in sprightly dance
  - (c) The tangled bine-stems scored the sky
  - (d) I remember I remember
- (xv) Which of the following tasks is NOT performed by Skimbleshanks in the poem?
- [UNDERSTANDING]
- (a) Supervision of the driver
  - (b) Supervision of the guards
  - (c) Supervision of the bagmen
  - (d) Supervision of the police

(xvi) The poem The Night Mail highlights the importance of \_\_\_\_\_.

[ANALYSIS]

- (a) a good postal system
- (b) the human desire to stay connected
- (c) a strong industrial town
- (d) travelling by train at night

## SECTION B

(Answer **one or more** questions from this Section.)

### DRAMA

(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

#### Question 2

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

*Calphurnia :* Alas! my Lord. Your wisdom is consum'd in confidence.  
Do not go forth today: call it my fear  
That keeps you in the house, and not your own.  
We'll send Mark Antony to the Senate House

- (i) Where are the speakers? [RECALL]  
Describe the weather outside. [RECALL]  
What is Calphurnia trying to prevent Caesar from doing? [UNDERSTANDING] [3]
- (ii) State two unusual things Calphurnia had heard of that made her fearful. [RECALL]  
What nightmare had she had? [RECALL] [3]
- (iii) How did Caesar calm his wife's fears? [RECALL]  
What does Calphurnia mean by "Your wisdom is consum'd in confidence"? [UNDERSTANDING] [3]
- (iv) How does Decius interpret Calphurnia's dream? [UNDERSTANDING] [3]
- (v) What does Caesar finally decide to do? [RECALL]  
What can you infer about his character from this decision? [ANALYSIS]  
Mention two aspects of Calphurnia's character revealed in this scene. [ANALYSIS] [4]

#### Question 3

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

*Brutus:* What means this shouting? I do fear the people

*Choose Caesar for their king.*

**Cassius:** *Ay, do you fear it?*

*Then must I think you would not have it so.*

**Brutus:** *I would not, Cassius; yet I love him well.*

- (i) Where are Brutus and Cassius? [RECALL]  
What does Brutus 'fear' is the reason for 'this shouting'? [UNDERSTANDING]  
Later in the scene, Brutus hears a second shout. What does he think this is about? [UNDERSTANDING] [3]
- (ii) Later in the scene, how do Brutus and Cassius come to know of the actual reason for all the shouting? Who gives them the details? [RECALL]  
How had they drawn this man's attention? [RECALL] [3]
- (iii) '*I would not Cassius, yet I love him well.*' What does this line reveal about Brutus's mental state? [ANALYSIS]  
How did Brutus describe his state of mind earlier in the scene? [UNDERSTANDING] [3]
- (iv) What does Cassius say to prove that Caesar was as weak as any other human being? [UNDERSTANDING]  
State any one physical disability of Caesar's that is mentioned in this scene. [RECALL] [3]
- (v) Important character traits of Cassius are revealed in this scene. Mention any two. [ANALYSIS]  
What is your opinion of the man? Give a reason to justify your answer. [EVALUATION] [4]

### SECTION C

*(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)*

#### PROSE - SHORT STORIES

**(Treasure Chest — A Collection of Poems and Short Stories)**

#### Question 4

Read the following extract from Satyajit Ray's short story, *Bonku Babu's Friend* and answer the questions that follow:

*"All at once, his ears began ringing. He felt as if someone was humming loudly --- a long, steady noise ---- there was no way he could stop it."*

- (i) Where was Bonku Babu at this point in the story? [RECALL]  
An object came into view as he moved forward. Describe what he saw. [RECALL] [3]
- (ii) A weird creature soon began talking to Bonku Babu. What did he say to Bonku about having made a mistake? [RECALL] [3]
- (iii) In what way did the creature prove that he was superior to humans? [ANALYSIS] [3]
- (iv) How did Bonku Babu's dreams of visiting foreign lands come true? Describe any one such land that he 'saw'. [UNDERSTANDING] [3]
- (v) How did the creature's advice affect Bonku Babu? [ANALYSIS]  
Comment on his transformation at the end of the story. What do you like about the way the story ends? [ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION] [4]

### Question 5

Read the following extract from Charles Dickens' short story, *Oliver Asks for More* and answer the questions that follow:

*Oliver Twist's mother, a young woman, lay ill in bed. A doctor and an old woman stood by her side. She lifted her head from the pillow. 'Let me see the child and die.'*

- (i) Who is the child referred to in the above extract? [RECALL]  
What might have been the young woman's feelings when she said this? [ANALYSIS] [3]
- (ii) What is a 'workhouse'? How did the young woman who gave birth to the child end up in the workhouse? [UNDERSTANDING] [3]
- (iii) Who named the young child? What method did he use to do this? [RECALL] [3]
- (iv) How did the old woman take care of the child? [RECALL]  
What does this tell us about her nature? [ANALYSIS] [3]
- (v) At the end of the story, a notice was posted outside the workhouse gate. What did it say? [RECALL]  
Why do you think the reward was mentioned on the notice. [ANALYSIS] [4]

## SECTION D

(Answer **one or more** questions from this Section.)

### POETRY

(Treasure Chest — A collection of Poems and Short Stories)

#### Question 6

Read the following extract from Vikram Seth's poem, A Doctor's Journal Entry for August 6, 1945 and answer the questions that follow:

*The morning stretched calm, beautiful, and warm  
Sprawling half-clad, I gazed out at the form  
Of shimmering leaves and shadows. Suddenly  
A strong flash, then another startled me.  
I saw the old stone lantern brightly lit.*

- (i) Who made this journal entry? [RECALL]  
What is the significance of the date in the title of the poem? [UNDERSTANDING] [3]
- (ii) How does the narrator describe the morning in the opening lines of the poem? [RECALL] [3]
- (iii) What physical injuries does the narrator suffer? [RECALL] [3]
- (iv) Mention any three of the shocking sights he observed as he looked around that morning? [UNDERSTANDING] [3]
- (v) What is the tone used by the poet to describe the shocking events happening around the narrator? What is the mood conveyed by the last lines of the poem:

*Silence was common to us all. I heard  
No cries of anguish, or a single word.*

[ANALYSIS & EVALUATION] [4]

#### Question 7

Read the following extract from Thomas Hood's poem, I Remember I Remember and answer the questions that follow:

*My spirit flew in feathers then,  
That is so heavy now.*

- (i) What does the poet recall at the beginning of the poem? [RECALL]  
What does he wish for at the end of the stanza? [RECALL] [3]



- (ii) What words does the poet use to create a sense of nostalgia? [UNDERSTANDING]  
What memories of the garden does he mention in the second stanza? [RECALL] [3]
- (iii) 'The tree is living yet!' What is the significance of this line? [ANALYSIS]  
Who had planted this tree and on what occasion? [RECALL] [3]
- (iv) The poet uses various kinds of images in the poem. Give one example for each of the following: [APPLICATION]
- (a) sight,
- (b) sound
- (c) touch [3]
- (v) The poet compares two stages of his life in the poem. What are they? [UNDERSTANDING]  
What moods does he associate with each of them? [ANALYSIS] [4]