

QUARTERLY EXAMINATION 2023 - 24
CLASS X (ICSE)

Time : 2 hrs.

SUBJECT : LITERATURE IN ENGLISH (PAPER-2)

M.M. 80

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:-

- * This paper has four sections. Section - A is compulsory.
- * 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 are given in brackets: [].

SECTION- A

(Attempt all questions from this section)

Q.1 Read the following questions and choose the most appropriate response from the choices given below: [1 × 16 = 16]

- (i) _____ was the very sum of Bassanio's confession to Portia.
- (a) Confide and Trust (b) Confess and love
(c) Contest and Win (d) Confess and like
- (ii) What kind of music will be heard if Bassanio would successfully make the right choice of caskets?
- (a) That awakens a bird on the day of her wedding
(b) That arouses a swan to sing a sweet song.
(c) That is heard when wedding rituals are performed.
(d) That awakens the dreaming bridegroom on the morning of his wedding day.
- (iii) Why does Portia ask Bassanio to wait before choosing the caskets?
- (a) She wants to spend sometime in his company.
(b) So that she can teach him how to choose the right casket.
(c) It is a condition put to all suitors.
(d) She wants to play music.
- (iv) Who does Portia send to Padua to secure clothing and documents for herself and Nerissa?
- (a) Portia's cousin, Doctor Bellario (b) Portia's servant, Balthazar
(c) Portia's servant, Nerissa (d) Lorenzo
- (v) Tubal reports Jessica has stolen a ring of Shylock. What does she trade the ring for?
- (a) A monkey (b) Fine clothes
(c) Portia's ring (d) Thousands of ducats.
- (vi) In Act III scene II, Portia compares Bassanio to which figure?
- (a) Hercules (b) Thor (c) Athene (d) Mercury
- (vii) In 'An Angel in Disguise', the three children lose their mother to:
- (a) Domestic violence (b) Drunkenness
(c) Tuberculosis (d) Kidnapping
- (viii) Who was the oldest among the children?
- (a) Joe (b) Maggie (c) Kate (d) John
- (ix) In the story 'An Angel in Disguise', Maggie is not taken by anyone because _____.
- (a) She is useless (b) She has a spinal injury
(c) She shows bad behaviour (d) All of these
- (x) How many visions did the little girl see on New Year's Eve?
- (a) Two (b) Three (c) Four (d) Five
- (xi) The little match girl is wearing _____.
- (a) Only one slipper (b) No slippers at all
(c) Large slippers (d) Broken slippers
- (xii) In the story 'The Little Match Girl', the girl lit the matchstick to _____.
- (a) Make her grandmother stay (b) Get some warmth
(c) Keep on seeing the Christmas dinner (d) Both 'a' and 'b'

- (xiii) The daffodils are compared to the stars in the milky way because:
- (a) They are temporal (b) They are eternal
(c) They are beautiful (d) They are continuous
- (xiv) The statement "Ten thousand saw I at a glance" is a _____
- (a) Simile (b) Metaphor (c) Parable (d) Hyperbole
- (xv) With what purpose does the caged bird sing?
- (a) It likes to sing (b) To call another bird
(c) It is the nature of birds (d) It has only this way to express its pain
- (xvi) 'I know Why the Caged Bird Sings' is a reflection on:
- (a) Social disparity (b) Racial discrimination
(c) Slavery in America (d) All of these

SECTION B

(The Merchant of Venice)

Q.2 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Shylock : To bait fish withal. If it will feed nothing else, it will feed my revenge. He hath disgraced me and hindered me half a million; laughed at my losses, mocked at my gains, scorned my nation, thwarted my bargains, cooled my friends, heated mine enemies- and what's his reason? I am a Jew.

- (i) Who is 'He'? What does Shylock want from him? What does Shylock mean by 'to bait fish withal'? [3]
- (ii) According to Shylock, in what ways did Jews resemble Christians? [3]
- (iii) How does Shylock use Christian example to justify his desire for revenge? [3]
- (iv) Mention any three ways besides those mentioned in the extract in which 'He' had wronged Shylock. [3]
- (v) The given extract reveals two distinct emotions that Shylock experiences. What are they? Give one reason to justify each of these emotions. [4]

Q.3 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

Portia : Lorenzo, I commit into your hands
The husbandry and manage of my house
Until my lord's return: for mine own part,
I have toward heaven breathed a secret vow
To live in prayer and contemplation,
Only attended by Nerissa here,
Until her husband and my lord's return:

- (i) Who does Portia refer to as 'my Lord'? Where is her lord? Why had he left in such haste? [3]
- (ii) What does Portia ask Lorenzo to do? Why does she make this request? [3]
- (iii) What is the 'secret vow' that Portia speaks of? [3]
- (iv) What instructions does Portia give to her servant, a little later in the scene? [3]
- (v) What do we learn of Portia's real intention from her conversation with Nerissa? [4]

SECTION-C

PROSE - SHORT - STORIES

Q.4 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

"What is to be done with the children?" That was the chief question now. The dead mother would go underground and be forever beyond all care or concern of the villagers. But the children must not be left to starve.

- (i) Describe the way in which the children's mother died. What were the factors that led to her death? [3]

- (ii) How do the people of the village treat the woman before her death? How does their manner change after she dies? [3]
- (iii) Name the woman's three children. State one fact about each of them. [3]
- (iv) What happens to each of the children after the mother's funeral? [3]
- (v) Which of the three children can be considered the 'Angel in Disguise'? How does the child's arrival transform the home she enters? [4]

Q.5 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

If only she dared pull just one small match from the packet, strike it on the wall and warm her fingers.

- (i) Why did she think to pull one small match from the packet? How did it feel when it was lighted? Why was it a strange light? [3]
- (ii) What vision does she see the second time she lit the match? [3]
- (iii) To whom does the little girl say, 'Oh! take me with you'? What kind of relationship does she share with the listener? What had this person told the little girl? [3]
- (iv) When did she see a star falling? What truth came to her on seeing it? [3]
- (v) What good luck did the New Year bring for the little girl? [4]

SECTION- D (POETRY)

Q.6 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

- (i) The poet uses the words, 'wandered' and 'lonely' in the opening lines of the poem to describe himself. What mood do these words convey? What led to a change in his mood? [3]
- (ii) How does the poet describe the sight that met his eyes? Give a brief description of what the poet saw. [3]
- (iii) What does the poet mean when he says 'Ten thousand saw I at a glance'? Find two others words in the given extract that create the impression of large numbers. [3]
- (iv) To what does the poet compare this sight? How is this comparison appropriate? [3]
- (v) What immediate effect did this sight have on the poet? How did it affect him in the long run? [4]

Q.7 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :

But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams
his shadow shouts on a nightmare screen
his wings are clipped and his feet are tied
So he opens his throat to sing.

- (i) How does the poet describe the state of the free bird in the opening lines of the poem? [3]
- (ii) Give a brief description of the caged bird's physical and mental condition. [3]
- (iii) Explain the phrase 'grave of dreams' in your own words. What does the caged bird sing about? [3]
- (iv) The 'free bird' and the 'caged bird' in the poem represent different groups of people. Name them. [3]
- (v) Mention the ways in which the world of the caged bird differs from that of the free bird. [4]