

Std.: 10th ICSE
Sub:- English Literature



Marks : 80
Time: 2 Hrs.
Date:- 27-12-2022

Pre-Board Test Set-1

General Instructions:

- (i) Answers to this paper must be written on the paper provided separately.
- (ii) You will not be allowed to write during first 15 minutes. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
- (iii) The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.
- (iv) **Section A** is compulsory. Attempt **any four** questions from **Section B**.
- (v) The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

SECTION - A

(Attempt *all* questions from this Section.)

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]
 - (A) In the story 'The Little Match Girl,' who said, "She was evidently trying to keep herself warm"?
 - (a) her grand mother
 - (b) the Little girl's father
 - (c) her mother
 - (d) the people who found her lying dead on the street
 - (B) The free bird demonstrates freedom and power when it:
 - (a) stalks down its narrow cage
 - (b) sings with a fearful trill
 - (c) shouts on a nightmore scream
 - (d) claims the sky
 - (C) Where was Margot when children were playing outside?
 - (a) along with the children
 - (b) out in the garden
 - (c) in the classroom
 - (d) inside the closet
 - (D) The travelling merchant in "The Blue Bead" hails from which of these states:
 - (a) Kerala
 - (b) Andhra Pradesh
 - (c) Kashmir
 - (d) Punjab
 - (E) Why were all athlete awarded with gold medal?
 - (a) because they displayed athletic capability
 - (b) because they displayed human compassion
 - (c) because they deserved it
 - (d) because they were honest and compassionate.

- (F) What did Jesse realise, when he got up to leave from Luz Long's room?
 (a) that they are rivals
 (b) that he will lose in the Olympics
 (c) that he will win the gold in the Olympics
 (d) that a real friendship had been formed between him and Luz
- (G) The poem, 'The Patriot' is a hard and critical satire on:
 (a) people's fickle minded attitude
 (b) religious intolerance
 (c) heroic martyrdom
 (d) public hero worship
- (H) In the story 'An Angel In Disguise', what did one of the men suggest for the little child?
 (a) She should be taken to a poor house.
 (b) She should be adopted by Mr. Thompon.
 (c) She should be left alone.
 (d) She should be taken by Mrs. Ellis.
- (I) 'Abou spoke more low' is an instance of:
 (a) assonance
 (b) consonance
 (c) simile
 (d) metaphor
- (J) The poem 'Daffodils' is a eulogy to the restorative power of
 (a) happiness
 (b) bliss of solitude
 (c) mind
 (d) nature
- (K) Why does Tubal say that Antonio is undone?
 (a) Because Antonio lost his credibility in Venice
 (b) Because his ship laden with rich cargo is wrecked
 (c) Because Antonio feels he need not pay back the loan
 (d) Because Antonio has to pay the loan amount to Shylock
- (L) Why does Portia say she cannot help Bassanio choose the right casket?
 (a) It would be dishonest if she did.
 (b) She would be breaking her promise to her father if she did.
 (c) She believes in justice and fair play.
 (d) She has sworn not to help him.
- (M) According to Launcleot, who is to be blamed for Jessica's conversion?
 (a) Antonio
 (b) Bassanio
 (c) Shylock
 (d) Lorenzo
- (N) Explain: "...use all the strength of a man"
 (a) do your best
 (b) muster all your strength
 (c) try your hardest
 (d) give it your best shot
- (O) What does the Duke and the world expect Shylock to do?
 (a) The Duke expects that Shylock will exempt his penalty.
 (b) The Duke expects that Shylock will ask for six thousand ducats.
 (c) The Duke expects that Shylock will wish to take ten thousand ducats.
 (d) The Duke expects that Shylock will show pity at the last moment when the time to cut off a pound of flesh would come.
- (P) What was the generous offer given by Bassanio to save his friend?
 (a) to pay six thousand ducats
 (b) to pay three thousand ducats
 (c) to give away his property
 (d) to give his life

SECTION - B

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

DRAMA

(The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare)

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

Away, then ! I am lock'd in one of them:

If you do love me, you will find me out.

Nerissa, and the rest, stand all aloof.

Let music sound while he doth make his choice;

Then, if he lose, he makes a swan-like end,

- (A) Who says 'I am lock'd in one of them? What does this mean? [3]
- (B) Explain the meaning of 'he makes a swan like end? What contemporary belief about the swans is expressed here? [3]
- (C) What music will be played if the suitor wins? [3]

(D) How is the theme of love versus wealth developed in this scene? [3]

(E) Why can't Portia teach Bassanio to choose the right casket? If Bassanio were to make an incorrect choice, what would he do? [4]

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

Gratiano Fair Sir, you are well o'er ta' en

Shylock

My own flesh and blood to rebel!

Salarino

There is more difference between thy flesh and hers than between jet and ivory more

between your bloods than there is between red wine and Rhenish. But tell us, do you hear whether Antonio have had any loss at Sea or no?

(A) Where does this scene take place? Who has rebelled against Shylock? How? [3]

(B) What news beside the news of the rebel is given just before the arrival of Shylock? [3]

(C) What steps has Shylock taken to get back the rebel? [3]

(D) How has Salarino compared the character of the rebel with Shylock? [3]

(E) What news did Tubal bring from Genoa about the rebel? [4]

SECTION - C

(Attempt one or more questions from this Section.)

PROSE- SHORT STORIES

(Treasure Trove—A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

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

"Then she quickly struck all the rest of the matches she had in the packet, for she did so want to keep her grandmother with her."

(A) What fell, streaking the sky with light? What does it signify according to the little girl? [4]

(B) Why did the little girl light the whole bundle of matches at the end of the story? [3]

(C) What did the little girl plead to her grandmother? Why? [3]

(D) What kind of relationship existed between the girl and her grandmother? [3]

(E) What happens to the girl at the end? How does the extract bring out the hope of better life after death? [3]

5. Read the following extract from the story 'The Blue Bead' and answer the questions that follow; by choosing the most appropriate response from the choices given below:

Where Sibia was working, wind coming across hundred miles of trees cooled her sweating body, and she could look down the river as if she were a bird.

(A) Who are 'they'? Where were they walking? Why? [3]

(B) Which room is being mentioned here? [3]

(C) What sounds were heard beyond the room? [3]

(D) Why did the children walk to the closet door? [3]

(E) Why was Sibia mother angry when they were at the cliff? How did Sibia react the situation? [4]

SECTION - D

(Attempt one or more questions from this Section.)

POETRY

(Treasure Trove—A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

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

*Alack, it was I who leaped at the sun
To give it my loving friends to keep!*

Naught man could do, have I Left undone :

And you see my harvest, what i reap

This very day, now a year is run.

- (A) Who is 'I' in the above extract? What does 'leaping at the sun' imply? [3]
- (B) What was the mood of the speaker as portrayed in the above stanza? [3]
- (C) Explain what 'harvest' the speaker is referring to? [3]
- (D) Explain what the speaker wants to say in the last two lines. [3]
- (E) How is Browning's optimistic philosophy of life, reflected in the poem? [4]

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

The athletes had come from so many countries

To run for the gold, for the silver and bronze

Many weeks and months in training

All building up to the games.

- (A) What event is referred to here by the poet? [3]
- (B) What kind of children were they? [3]
- (C) What was their aim? [3]
- (D) How had they prepared themselves for the special event? [3]
- (E) How did the race end? What does this show? [4]