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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.

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Attempt **five** questions in all.

You **must** attempt at least **one** question from each of the **Sections A, B and C** compulsorily.

You may attempt the remaining **two** questions from any section(s) of your choice.

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

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SECTION A – DRAMA

Answer at least **one** question from this Section.

**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 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 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 [3]  
lines?
- (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 [4]  
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.

**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, and [3]  
on which casket was it found?
- (ii) List the conditions that Arragon had to promise to abide by before he was [3]  
allowed to choose a casket.
- (iii) Explain in your own words, the comparison that Arragon makes between the [3]  
martlet and the foolish multitude.

- (iv) Which casket does Arragon eventually choose? [3]  
What does he find inside the casket that he chooses?
- (v) How does Arragon respond when he discovers that he had made the wrong [4]  
choice? What does this reveal about Arragon's character?

**Question 3.**

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

**Nerissa:** *Your father was 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? [3]  
Who devised it?
- (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? [3]  
What is Nerissa's opinion of Portia's father?
- (v) Which casket does the Prince of Morocco choose? [4]  
What leads him to make this choice?

## SECTION B – POETRY

Answer at least **one** question from this Section.

***A Collection of Poems***

**Question 4.**

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 5.**

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? [4]  
What could they have done to change their fate?  
Justify the title of the poem, 'The Cold Within'.

**Question 6.**

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? [3]  
To what does the poet compare the flowers?
- (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. [4]  
What do you suppose causes this change in mood?

## SECTION C – PROSE

Answer at least **one** question from this Section.

***A Collection of Short Stories***

**Question 7.**

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 sensed 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 8.**

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

It was my business to cross the bridge, explore the bridgehead 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 9.**

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]