



**DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWTOWN**  
**SESSION: 2021-22**  
**HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION**

**CLASS: IX**  
**SUBJECT: ENGLISH PAPER II**

**FULL MARKS: 50**  
**TIME: 1 HR 30 MINS**

**General Instructions:**

- Choose any one question from Section A.
- Sections B and C are compulsory.
- The paper consists of three printed pages.

**SECTION A – DRAMA**

*The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare*

**Question 1.**

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

Portia: ...But this reasoning is not in the fashion to choose me a husband.

*O me, the word “choose”! I may neither choose who I would, nor refuse who I dislike; so is the will of a living daughter curbed by the will of a dead father. Is it not hard, Nerissa, that I cannot choose one, nor refuse none?*

- i. Where is Portia at this moment? What test had Portia's father devised for her suitors? [3]
- ii. Who is Nerissa? What does she say about Portia's father and the test to cheer up Portia? [3]
- iii. Why does Portia disapprove of the County Palatine? Whom would she rather marry? [3]
- iv. How, according to Portia, can the Duke of Saxony's nephew be made to choose the wrong casket? What do these suitors ultimately decide? [3]
- v. What oath did Portia ask Prince of Morocco to take before he took his chance in choosing the casket? Mention any two brave and daring deeds that Prince of Morocco could do for Portia. Give any one character trait of Portia with suitable justification. [4]

**OR**

### **Question 2.**

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

*Launcelot: [Aside] O heavens, this is my true-begotten  
father who, being more than sand-blind,  
high-gravel blind, knows me not: I will try  
confusions with him.*

- i. Who is Launcelot? Who is being referred to as ‘true begotten father’? Where does this scene take place? [3]
- ii. Mention briefly how Launcelot confused his father. What was Launcelot debating at the beginning of the scene? [3]
- iii. Whose services did Launcelot want to leave? What reason did he give for taking such a decision? Whom did he want to join? [3]
- iv. What gift did Launcelot’s father bring for his old master? What did Launcelot suggest to give him instead? Who is Dobbin? [3]
- v. What request does Gratiano make to Bassanio towards the end of the scene? Mention any one fault of Gratiano as listed by Bassanio. What is your impression of Launcelot from this scene? Justify with textual reference. [4]

### **SECTION B – POETRY**

#### *A Collection of Poems: Treasure Trove*

### **Question 3.**

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

*‘And everybody praised the Duke  
Who this great fight did win.’  
‘But what good came of it at last?’  
Quoth little Peterkin.  
‘Why that I cannot tell,’ said he,  
‘But ‘twas a famous victory.’*

*(After Blenheim, Robert Southey)*

- i. Who is referred to as ‘he’ in the above extract? Where was ‘he’ sitting? What time of the day is mentioned in the poem? [3]
- ii. Who is the other child mentioned in the poem? What was Peterkin playing with? How is it described in the poem? [3]
- iii. Where did Peterkin find that object? What happened when ‘he’ went to plough? Why do you think that similar objects were found in the nearby areas? [3]
- iv. Which country emerged victorious in the battle? How did the family of ‘he’ suffer in the war? Who were affected the most in the war? [4]
- v. Which was the ‘shocking sight’ after such a battle? Name the two leaders who received praise after the war. How is the theme of ignorance exemplified through the words of ‘he’ in the poem? [4]

## **SECTION C – SHORT STORIES**

### *A Collection of Short Stories: Treasure Trove*

#### **Question 4.**

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

*He slightly raised his right hand, bound at the wrist by the shining “bracelet” to the left one of his companion. The glad look in the girl’s eyes slowly changed to a bewildered horror. The glow faded from her cheeks.*

- i. Who is referred to as ‘he’ here? Describe the physical appearance of his companion. [3]
- ii. Who is referred to as “the girl” here? Why does she like living in the West? Why did her mother leave before her? [3]
- iii. Where did ‘he’ and his companion meet ‘the girl’? Which seat did the two men occupy? Where did the companion of ‘he’ request to be taken towards the end of the story? [3]
- iv. Where was ‘he’ being taken to? What crime has ‘he’ committed? What explanation did ‘he’ give for having shifted to the West? [4]
- v. Mention in details how the real identity of ‘he’ and his companion was revealed through the conversation of two other fellow passengers. Mention any one prominent theme of the story with suitable justification. [4]