



**DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWTOWN  
SESSION 2022-23  
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION**

**CLASS: IX**

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH PAPER II (Set A)**

**FULL MARKS: 80**

**TIME: 2 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.*

*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 [ ].*

*This paper consists of seven printed pages.*

**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) Bassanio: Gratiano speaks an infinite deal of nothing more than any man in all Venice. His reasons are as two grains of wheat hid in two bushels of chaff". What does the word 'chaff' mean?
- a) basket of grain
  - b) husk of grain
  - c) unit of measurement
  - d) ducats

ii) What is the main theme of the poem *The Heart of the Tree*?

- a) Optimism
- b) Futility
- c) Usefulness of trees
- d) Forest fire

iii) “*They did not die from the cold without.*” The phrase ‘cold without’ means the

- a) not so cold weather outside
- b) cold weather outside
- c) not feeling cold
- d) outside temperature was responsible for their death.

iv) Portia: *He doth nothing but frown.* Identify the ‘he’ in the sentence.

- a) County Palatine
- b) Duke of Saxony’s nephew
- c) Falconbridge
- d) Scottish Lord

v) ‘*This morning Muni got six. He carried them in with a sense of triumph.*’ That morning Muni got six \_\_\_\_\_ (Fill in)

- a) goats
- b) cigarettes from the foreigner
- c) pumpkins with the creepers
- d) drumsticks

vi) Who was Jacob employed with?

- a) Abraham
- b) Shylock
- c) Isaac
- d) Laban

vii) *It was Easter Sunday and the \_\_\_\_\_ were advancing toward the Ebro.* (Fill in)

- a) Fascists
- b) Facsists
- c) Facests
- d) Facsests

viii) ‘*The treble of heaven’s harmony*’-What is the meaning of ‘treble’ in the poem?

- a) High tone or pitch
- b) shiver
- c) ray of hope
- d) shade

ix) Muni had an ancient debt of \_\_\_\_\_ which he had to pay the shop man.

- a) four rupees and a quarter
- b) five rupees and a quarter
- c) five rupees and four quarters
- d) two rupees and a quarter

x) “*Alack! Sir, I am sand-blind; I know you not*” Gobbo said this to \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) Bassanio
- b) Launcelot
- c) Lorenzo
- d) Shylock

xi) *The Red Man has ever fled the approach of the White Man as the morning \_\_\_\_\_ flees before the morning \_\_\_\_\_.* (Fill in)

- a) birds, wind
- b) mist, sun
- c) cloud, sun
- d) fog, sun

xii) *Portia: Ay, that’s a colt indeed, for he doth nothing but talk of his horse...* Portia refers to \_\_\_\_\_

- a) the County Palatine
- b) the Duke of Saxony’s nephew
- c) Bassanio
- d) Neapolitan prince

xiii) How many humans were trapped in the poem *The Cold Within*?

- a) Six
- b) Five
- c) Seven
- d) Nine

- xiv) Chief Seattle said that young men grow angry at some real or imaginary wrong and disfigure their faces with \_\_\_\_\_ paint. (Fill in)
- a) white
  - b) red
  - c) brown
  - d) black
- xv) What inspires the planter to plant a tree?
- a) money that he will be able to earn
  - b) nation's growth
  - c) the beautiful flowers
  - d) his family

- xvi) When Gratiano said "*I have a suit to you*" to Bassanio, he wanted to:
- a) go to Belmont with him.
  - b) marry Nerissa.
  - c) a livery more guarded.
  - d) three thousand ducats.

**SECTION B**  
**DRAMA (*The Merchant of Venice*- Shakespeare)**

**Question 2**

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow:

*Morocco: Mislike me not for my complexion,  
The shadow'd livery of the burnish'd sun,  
To whom I am a neighbour, and near bred.  
Bring me the fairest creature northward born,  
Where Phoebus' fire scarce thaws the icicles,  
And let us make incision for your love,  
To prove whose blood is reddest, his or mine.*

- i) Where does this scene take place? Why has the Prince of Morocco gone there?  
Name any one suitor who visited there before him. [3]
- ii) Explain the lines: ...*The shadow'd livery of the burnish'd sun,  
To whom I am a neighbour, and near bred.*  
Under which circumstance would the speaker change his 'hue'? [3]

- iii) Mention three brave deeds that Morocco says he would be happy to perform in order to win Portia. [3]
- iv) What test does Morocco propose to prove his worth in comparison to the one born in the north? According to Morocco, what could happen if Hercules and Lichas were to play the game of dice to decide who was a better man? [3]
- v) How is the speaker treated by the people in his own country? Mention the condition that the speaker must follow before making his choice as mentioned in this scene. Give a character trait of the Prince of Morocco with suitable justification. [4]

### **Question 3**

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow:

*Bassanio: ...Her name is Portia; nothing undervalu'd  
 To Cato's daughter, Brutus' Portia;  
 Nor is the wide world ignorant of her worth,  
 For the four winds blow in from every coast  
 Renowned suitors; and her sunny locks  
 Hang on her temples like a golden fleece;  
 Which makes her seat of Belmont Colchis' strand,  
 And many Jasons come in quest of her.*

- i) Where did Portia live? What had Bassanio received from her earlier? How do you know that many young men wanted to marry Portia? [3]
- ii) How did Bassanio describe Portia in this scene? [3]
- iii) Which experience of school days did Bassanio share to convince Antonio for helping him? Who are referred to as 'Jasons' in the extract? [3]
- iv) What help did Bassanio ask from Antonio? Why did he need that help immediately? Why was Antonio unable to help him right then? [3]
- v) What confession had Bassanio made to Antonio about his own present financial condition? Mention any two instances from the scene to show that Antonio was a kind and confident man. [4]

**SECTION C**  
**PROSE- SHORT STORIES**  
**(Treasure Trove- A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)**

**Question 4**

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow:

*“The other houses distributed in four streets...”*

- i) Name the village where Muni lived. How many houses were there in the village? Where was Muni's house in the village? [3]
- ii) What did Muni's wife prepare for him for breakfast? What craving did Muni have that morning? [3]
- iii) How old were Muni and his wife when they got married? Mention any two ingredients that Muni's wife had asked Muni to bring from the shop. [3]
- iv) What was the foreigner interested in buying? What price did he offer? What was he wearing? [3]
- v) Where was the foreigner coming from? What was his wife's name? How did he spend his Sundays? What impression do you form of Muni from the story? [4]

**Question 5**

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow:

*There was a time when our people covered the land as the waves of a wind-ruffled sea cover its shell-paved floor, but that time long since passed away with the greatness of tribes that are now but a mournful memory. I will not dwell on, nor mourn over, our untimely decay, nor reproach my paleface brothers with hastening it, as we too may have been somewhat to blame.*

- i) Who is the speaker? Which races does the speaker refer to as 'our people' and 'pale face brothers'? [3]
- ii) Mention the examples given by the speaker at the beginning of his speech to portray the differences between the present populations of the two races. What proposition was sent to the speaker? [3]
- iii) Why does the speaker use the word 'partial' for the common Heavenly Father of the two races? What did 'our people' consider their religion to be? [3]
- iv) Name the two ancient tribes from the north mentioned by the speaker. How were the brave warriors going to protect 'our people' from these ancient enemies? [3]
- v) According to the speaker, how will the 'paleface brothers' be never alone even after the last person of 'our people' will perish? Give any one character trait of the speaker. [4]

**SECTION D**  
**POETRY**

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

**Question 6**

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow:

*For song and mother-croon of bird  
In hushed and happy twilight heard --  
The treble of heaven's harmony--  
These things he plants who plants a tree.*

- i) Who is 'He' in the extract? What is considered to be a 'friend of sun and sky'? Why is it regarded so? [3]
- ii) Why does 'He' refer to the plant as '*a home to heaven anigh*'? Which adjectives have been used by the poet in the poem to describe the shade and the rainfall we receive? [3]
- iii) What emotion would be visible in the 'unborn eyes'? What would the 'unborn eyes' see? [3]
- iv) Mention any two benefits of planting a tree as mentioned in the poem. Where does 'He' hold the growth of the land? [3]
- v) What forethought motivates 'He' to plant more trees? Give one word to describe 'He'. Do you think the title of the poem is appropriate? Justify. [4]

**Question 7**

Read the extract 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) How were they trapped? What did each one of them possess? Describe the day's weather. [3]
- ii) What was dying in front of them? What was necessary for them to do at that moment? How racial discrimination is made evident through the first member's action? [3]
- iii) Why is the group termed as 'forlorn' by the poet? Why did the third and last man of the group refuse to give their logs? [3]
- iv) What was the rich man thinking? What was his opinion about the poor? [3]
- v) What was the condition of the group members at the end of the poem? What message is conveyed through the poem? [4]