**SUBJECT: LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

**03/02/24 GRADE: 12 ISC**

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|  | **REVERIE** |  |
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| 1 | *“We were blessed and now we are not blessed.”*  With reference to the above lines from the poem *The Dolphins*, explain why the dolphin thinks that they were ‘blessed’? What is their life like now? Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words.  **OR**  *“There is a man and our mind knows we will die here.”*Comment on the theme of oppression in the poem The Dolphins.  **OR**  Discuss the theme of oppression and dominance of man in the poem *The Dolphins.*  **OR**  How is the play of contrasts shown in the poem The Dolphins. | **[5]** |
| 2. | Describe how the poet in the poem *John Brown* establishes the hollowness behindthe glorification of war. Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words, supporting your analysis with any two details from the poem.  **OR**  When did the son realise the futility of war and what was the realisation?  **OR**  How did John Brown repay his mother for her lopsided view about the glory of war? |  |
|  | **2023** |  |
| 3. | Referring closely to ‘Dover Beach’ show how the poet corelates the gradual receding of the Sea of Faith with the gradual loss of human faith in religion. |  |
| 4. | Referring to Darkling Thrush, examine the poet’s encounter with the aged thrush as a passage from amazement to introspection. |  |
|  | **2022** |  |
| 5 | Discuss how in the poem Dover Beach the poet, Mathew Arnold, reposes faith in love as a beam of hope amidst the surrounding despair. |  |
| 6 | **2019**  Referring closely to the poem ***The Darkling Thrush***, answer the following:  (a)  Describe the bleak picture of the day as described by the poet. **[5]**  (b)  How does the atmosphere suddenly change? **[5 ]**  (c)  What are the poet’s feelings at the end of the poem? **[5]** |  |
|  | **Other schools** |  |
| 7 | How does the boy in Frost’s poem Birches swing from the birch tree? |  |
| 8 | Why was John Brown’s mother feeling proud? |  |
| 9 | Discuss the imagery used to convey despair and despondency in the poem The Darkling Thrush. |  |
| 10. | Explain the two images of ‘the Sea of Faith’ and ‘ignorant enemies clash by night’ from The Dover Beach.  OR  What does the poet say about the loss of human values in The Dover Beach. |  |
| 11 | In the poem *Dover Beach*, how does the poet introduce the note of melancholy and disturbance? In this context, what does he say about Faith?Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words. |  |
| 12 | In the poem *Birches*, what is the key action described in the poem? How does the poet connect his childhood to it? Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words. |  |
| 13 | Referring closely to the poem, *Dover Beach,* discuss how the poet emphasizes the comforting power of love in the chaotic world. Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 150-200 words. |  |
| 14 | Referring closely to the poem, *Birches,* where do the bent branches of the birches take the poet to? Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 150-200 words |  |
| 1. | How does the poet use visual imagery to convey despair and despondency in the poem, *The Darkling Thrush*? What effect does the song of the thrush have on the mood of the poet? Write your answer in about 200-250 words.  **OR**  How does the poet resolve the crisis in his mind in the poem The Darkling Thrush? What are his thoughts at the end of the poem? | **[10]** |
| 2. | What is the central idea of the poem *Dover Beach*? How does the poet resolve the conflict in his mind, towards the end of the poem? Justify your answer in about 200-250 words with supporting details from the poem  **OR**  Dover Beach combines beautiful natural description with a commentary on the contemporary situation. Discuss. |  |
|  | **2023** |  |
| 3 | WRT to Birches discuss what differentiates the swinging birches of the poet’s childhood from that in his adulthood.  **OR**  Why does an adult long for simple actions and experiences of childhood? Elaborate with reference to the poem *Birches .* |  |
|  | **Other Schools** |  |
| 4. | Dolphins is a heart touching tale of victims of speciesism. Discuss.  **OR**  The Dolphins talks about loss, dislocation and nostalgia.Comment.  **OR**  Discuss the poem *The Dolphins* as a poem that reflects on the themes of oppression, control and confinement of animals by man. Write your answer in about 200-250 words.  **OR**  Referring closely to the poem, *Dolphins,* bring out the theme of oppression and confinement.  **OR**  ‘The Dolphins’ is a poem of protest against the slow destruction of Nature and natural creatures by Man. Discuss. |  |
| 5. | Describe the moonlit night portrayed by the poet in the beginning of Dover Beach. How does the poet introduce the note of melancholy and disturbance?  **OR**  “*Dover Beach”* combines beautiful natural description with a commentary on the  contemporary situation. Discuss |  |
| 6 | John Brown does not talk about war but the after effects of war. Comment.  **OR**  The poem *John Brown* presents two attitudes to war. Describe the two attitudes. Which one do you sympathise with? Why? Write your answer in about 200-250 words.  **OR**  Referring closely to the poem, *John Brown,* how are the soldiers nothing but Cannon Fodder. Write your answer in about 200-250 words .  **OR**  Describe how in the poem John Brown, Dylan expresses the hollowness behind the glorification of war.  **OR**  Referring closely to the poem ‘John Brown’, describe how the mother of John Brown glorified war and heroism. |  |
| 7 | Analyse the contrast between reality and imagination in the poem Birches |  |
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|  | **ECHOES** |  |
| 1. | Describe any three ways in which B. Wordsworth influenced the narrator’s thinking in the short story, *B. Wordsworth.* Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words. | **[5]** |
| 2. | What, according to you, is the reason for Mrs. Mallard’s death in *The Story of an**Hour*? In a short paragraph of about 100-150 words, explain why her death might be considered ironic.  **OR**  Discuss the central conflict in the story of an hour.  **OR**  What do you conclude about the struggles and challenges faced by women from the short story *The Story of an Hour.* |  |
|  | **2023** |  |
| 3 | Discuss how the headmistress’ summons to Miss Meadows eventually brings the latter out from cold despair to a realm of hope, love and joy.  or  On the wings of hope, of love, of joy, Miss Meadows sped back to the music hall…’ Which incident has brought about this change in Miss Meadows in the story *The Singing Lesson*? How did her behaviour change with the girls after this incident? Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words. |  |
|  | **2022** |  |
| 4 | Referring closely to the short story, The Singing Lesson relate what Basil wrote in his letter to Miss Meadows. What do you conclude about Basil from the tone and wording of the letter? |  |
| 5 | Referring closely to the short story, B. Wordsworth relate two important lessons that the young narrator learnt from his friend, B. Wordsworth. How were these lessons relevant? |  |
|  | **Other schools** |  |
| 6. | Describe the encounter between Miss meadows and the Science Mistress |  |
| 7 | What does B Wordsworth say about poets and their tragedy? |  |
| 9 | Fritz was a miniature European doll that fascinated Jayanto’s imagination. Explain.  OR  Describe how Fritz was different from the other toys that Jayanto had.  OR  What does he tell the narrator about Fritz? |  |
| 10. | Nature plays a major role in The Story of an Hour. Comment on how nature sympathized with the feelings of Mrs. Mallard when the news of Mr. Mallard was broken to her. |  |
| 11 | Referring closely to the short story, *B. Wordsworth*, describebriefly the first interaction between B.Wordsworth and the young narrator. Do you feel that B.Wordsworth was an escapist? Give reasons for your answer. Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words |  |
| 12 | Referring closely to the short story, *The Singing Lesson,* analyse the reason for Miss Meadow’s behaviour with the Science Mistress and her students. Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 150-200 words. |  |
| 13 | Referring closely to the short story, *Quality,* what would happen after one entered the shop of Mr Gessler? Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 150-200 words each. |  |
| 14 | What is your reaction to the ending of the story Fritz? |  |
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| 1. | The story *Quality* is a commentary on the tension between the dedication of a true craftsman and commercial enterprise. Substantiate this statement in about 200–250 words with reference to the lives of the Gessler brothers, as portrayed in the story.  **OR**  How does Galsworthy in Quality portray the internal conflict of the Gessler brothers against the external fast changing world?  **OR**  How does Galsworthy evoke sympathy and respect for the Gessler brothers in the story, *Quality*? Write your answer in about 200-250 words.  **OR**  Quality establishes and upholds the dignity of labour and nobility of craftsmanship. Discuss in 200-250 words.  **OR**  The story ‘Quality’ depicts the struggle of a lone artist for survival in the world of vulgar commercialism using cheap methods of cut-throat competition and mass production. Discuss. | **[10]** |
| 2. | With the help of supporting evidence from the short story, *The Singing* *Lesson,* explain how Basil’s letter of rejection made Miss Meadows feel? How did it reflect in her interaction with the Science Mistress and the students? Write your answer in about 200 -250 words.  **OR**  The point of grief affects everyone and not just the person directly involved. Discuss wrt The Singing Lesson. |  |
|  | **2023** |  |
| 3 | Friendship is not a matter of age but of emotional connect. Discuss wrt story B Wordsworth.  **OR**  Why did you think B Wordsworth and the boy became friends? Discuss three instances from the story as to how they became close and the impact of this on the little boy.  **OR**  Referring closely to the short story, *B Wordsworth,* comment on the relationship that was built between the narrator and B Wordsworth. Write your answer in about 200-250 words.  **OR**  The short story ‘B. Wordsworth’ explores an unusual friendship between an old man and a boy. Discuss. |  |
|  | **2022 & 2019** |  |
| 4 | With close reference to the short story ***The Singing Lesson***; describe how the lesson as it progresses, becomes an echo of Miss Meadows’ feelings.  **2019** |  |
| 5 | Referring closely to the short story ***The Story of the Hour,*** give an account of the thoughts and conflicts which go through Mrs. Mallard’s mind when she hears about the untimely and sudden death of her husband. Comment on the ending of the story. |  |
|  | **Other Schools** |  |
| 6 | Ray in his story Fritz creates a sense of foreboding which makes the reader anticipate something unusual in the end. Discuss.  **OR**  Satyajit Ray creates an eerie atmosphere in the short story, *Fritz* along with the elements of suspense and thrill. Discuss giving relevant details from the story. Write your answer in about 200-250 words.  **OR**  What is your reaction to the ending of the story *Fritz* ? |  |
| 7 | Although Basil does not appear in the story, he plays an important part in the story. Discuss. |  |
| 8 | Referring closely to the short story, *Fritz,* compare and contrast the characters of Jayanto and Shankar. Write your answer in about 200-250 words. |  |
| 9 | Referring closely to the short story ‘Fritz’, relate why Jayonto wanted to visit Bundi instead of any other place. |  |
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|  | **THE TEMPEST** |  |
| 1. | Provide two details from the play to show the growing love between Miranda and Ferdinand when the former visits the latter. What are Prospero’s feelings as he secretly observes the two? Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words. | **[5]** |
| 2. | What are Prospero’s reasons for presenting the masque? Why does it end **[**abruptly? Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100- 150 words. |  |
|  | **2023** |  |
| 3 | Referring to Act 3, Scene 3, relate the stern warning of Ariel to the ‘three men of sin’. What impact does his warning have on the three sinners?  OR  Ariel’s appearance as a harpy represents justice and powers of nature. Discuss. |  |
| 4 | Wrt Act V, describe how Prospero has used the spirits of ‘hills, brooks and groves to give shape to his magical acts.What does he finally decide to do with his magical powers? |  |
|  | **2022** |  |
| 5 | Referring closely to the conversation between Prospero and Ferdinand at the beginning of Act IV of The Tempest, bring out Prospero’s concerns as a father |  |
| 6 | How does Prospero prove, “the rarer action is in /virtue than in vengeance in the final act of The Tempest? |  |
|  | **Other Schools** |  |
| 7 | What examples does Prospero give in Act V to show that his art was powerful? |  |
| 8 | Narrate how Prospero punished the trio involved in the conspiracy to murder him. |  |
| 9. | With close reference to Act III Scene 3 of the play, describe how the banquet was arranged by Ariel and his subordinates. What role did Ariel play? What was the stern warning of Ariel to the ‘three men of sin’? Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words. |  |
| 10 | Prospero refers to Caliban as “A devil, a born devil”. In this context, evaluate the character of Caliban based on Act III of the play. Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words. |  |
| 11 | Referring closely to Act III Scene II of the play, *The Tempest,* give a lively account of the quarrel between Caliban and Trinculo. Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 150 -200 words. |  |
| 12 | Referring closely to Act IV and V of the play, *The Tempest,* show how Prospero is a caring and concerned father. Write your answer in a short paragraph of 150-200 words. |  |
| 14 | The Epilogue brings the play to a logical conclusion. Discuss |  |
| 15 | In Act V of the scene, Prospero misleads Alonso into believing that he has also lost his daughter after which there is an amazing revelation. Describe in detail commenting on the mood in the scene. |  |
| 16 | Who are Ceres, Iris and Juno? Where are they called and why? |  |
| 17 | Referring closely to Act IV of the play, explain why Prospero ends the masque suddenly? What does he tell Ferdinand about the impermanence of the world? |  |
| 18 | How had Prospero engineered their meeting and attraction for one another BETWEEN Ferdinand and Miranda?  What does the conversation between the two young people Ferdinand and Miranda tell you about their natures? |  |
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| 1. | With reference to Act III Scene ii of the play, describe Caliban’s plot to murder Prospero with the help of Trinculo and Stephano. What do his interactions with Trinculo and Stephano reveal about his personality and desires? Write your answer in about 200-250 words.  **OR**  How does Caliban entice and navigate Stephano to murder Prospero. | [**10]** |
| 2. | With any two supporting details from Act V, explain what Prospero’s reconciliation with his enemies and renunciation of his magic indicate about his character. Write your answer in about 200-250 words. |  |
|  | **2023** |  |
| 3. | Wrt Act V, explain how Shakespeare presents the idea of forgiveness and reconciliation in the play.  **OR**  Referring closely to Act V of the play, discuss how Prospero reconciles all his enemies and proves that “the rarer action is in virtue than in vengeance.” Write your answer in about 200-250 words. |  |
| 4. | Magic is used to manipulate, intimidate and amaze the various characters in the play. Give your views on this statement with any two examples from the Acts that you have studied. |  |
|  | **2019** |  |
| 5 | Miranda is a perfect blend of innocence and determination. Discuss her role in the play with close reference to the text. |  |
|  | **Other Schools** |  |
| 6 | What does Ferdinand say about other women he had known and about Miranda?  **OR**  Discuss how Act III, Scene i, brings out the love between Ferdinand and Miranda. Why is the scene significant? |  |
| 7. | Referring to Act IV, describe the blessings showered by Ceres, Juno and Iris on Miranda and Ferdinand. What is the significance these blessings? |  |
| 8 | Before abjuring his magic, how does Prospero address the spirits and describe his potent art in Act V of the play? What is the significance of this speech? Write your answer in about 200-250 words.  **OR**  In Act V,discuss how Prospero expresses his gratitude to the fairies and spirits. What does he declare to do thereafter? Identify two traits of his character. |  |
| 9 | Comment on **The Epilogue** from the play, *The Tempest.* Write your answer in about 200-250 words. |  |
| 10 | Power plays an important part in the play, *The Tempest,* relate the attempts of the various characters on the island to gain power. Write your answer in about 200-250 words. |  |
| 11 | From Act 4, Scene 1, describe how Ariel and Caliban serve Prospero differently. Include how Prospero treats the two of them and the characteristic traits of Ariel and Caliban. |  |
| 12 | Describe the ‘living drollery’ in Act 3, Scene 3and the response of the king and his men to what they beheld. |  |
| 13 | Referring closely to the masque presented by Prospero for Ferdinand and Miranda, explain the purpose of the masque |  |
| 14 | Referring closely to the interaction between Prospero and Alonso in Act V of the play, describe the changes that you notice in both these characters. |  |
| 15 | Give a vivid account of the first meeting between Miranda and Ferdinand. |  |
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