

VIBGYOR HIGH

Second Term Examination

2019-2020

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Grade: VIII

Max. Marks : 80

Date : 13/03/2020

Time Allowed: 2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 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 intended marks for the questions or parts of questions are given alongside the questions.
- Attempt any five questions in all. You must attempt at least one question from each of the Sections A, B and C and two other questions.
- This paper contains 6 printed pages.

SECTION – A

(DRAMA- The Taming of the Shrew - Shakespeare)

Q.1 **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:-** **[16]**

Bianca: Why, gentlemen, you do me double wrong
 To strive for that which resteth in my choice.
 I am no breeching scholar in the schools,
 I'll not be tied to hours nor 'pointed times,
 But learn my lessons as I please myself.
 And, to cut off all the strife, here sit we down.
 Take you your instrument, play you the whiles;
 His lecture will be done ere you have tuned.

- a Who are the gentlemen referred to in the extract? Why are they at Bianca's place? What was the common motive of the gentlemen? [3]
- b Mention any three things that Bianca wants to say in the above lines. [3]
- c Explain the following: [3]
 - 'you do me double wrong'
 - 'cut off all the strife'
- d Discuss Bianca's character traits as portrayed in Act III Scene I. [3]
- e Where does this particular scene take place? Discuss the topic of argument between the gentlemen in detail, in the scene that made Bianca speak the above lines. [4]

Q2 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:- [16]

Tranio: Patience, good Katherine, and Baptista too.

Upon my life, Petruchio means but well,

Whatever fortune stays him from his word.

Though he be blunt, I know him passing wise;

Though he be merry, yet withal he's honest.

- a Who all enter the scene? What was the 'pointed day' as mentioned by Baptista? [3]
- b Why does Baptista feel upset? Why does Katherine say 'no shame but mine'? What does it reveal about the latter's attitude? [3]
- c Who was Baptista talking about at the opening of the scene? How was he dressed for his wedding day? [3]
- d How does Petruchio behave during the wedding ceremony? [3]
- e Mention the themes in detail with relevant examples as depicted in the Act. [4]

Q3 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:- [16]

At last, though long, our jarring notes agree,

And time it, is when raging war is done,

To smile at scapes and perils overblown.

My fair Bianca, bid my father welcome

While I with selfsame kindness welcome thine.

Brother Petruchio, sister Katherina,
And thou, Hortensio, with thy loving widow,
Feast with the best and welcome to my house.
My banquet is to close our stomachs up
After our great good cheer. Pray you, sit down,
For now we sit to chat as well as eat.

- a Who speaks in the given extract? Who else were present in the scene? [3]
- b Describe the 'wager' between the men later in the scene. What was the expectation of the majority of the people present in the scene? Who wins the 'wager' finally? [3]
- c What was the final message conveyed in Katherine's final monologue? [3]
- d Describe in detail, giving examples, the character of Katherine Minola in contrast to that of Petruchio as depicted in Act IV Scene III. [3]
- e Justify with relevant examples the two major themes as depicted in the play. [4]

SECTION-B (POETRY)

Q4 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:- [16]

The teacher set his eyes upon his book, and the water held and hid what it stole and went its way.

The daylight faded when Raghunath came back to the teacher, tired and dripping.

He panted and said, "I can still get it back if you show me where it fell."

- a Where was the teacher sitting? What was he doing? Describe the surroundings. [3]
- b Why was he panting? "....where it fell" what is "it" referred to in the given line? Describe "it". [3]
- c How is the action of the water symbolic in terms of spiritual values? What is the rhyme scheme of the poem? [3]
- d Who are 'I' and 'you' referred to here? What do they symbolise? [3]
- e What message is the poet trying to convey? Explain with reference to the [4]

theme of the poem.

Q5 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:- [16]

No head from the leaf-fringed sill
Leaned over and looked into his grey eyes,
Where he stood perplexed and still.
But only a host of phantom listeners
That dwelt in the lone house then
Stood listening in the quiet of the moonlight
To that voice from the world of men:

- a Name the poet of the above lines. Identify two words used from the given lines that give the poem an eerie atmosphere. [3]
- b What is the significance of the above lines? [3]
- c Explain the following: [3]
 'leaf-fringed sill'
 'perplexed'.
- d Explain the theme of the poem. [3]
- e Whose voice from the world of men is referred to here? Where has he come to and why? [4]

Q6 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:- [16]

"My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,
My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will,
The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done,
From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won;"

- a What is this kind of a poem called? Elaborate. What is everyone celebrating? [3]
- b Who is the Captain referred to in the above extract and what does the ship represent? What does the 'object won' represent? [3]
- c What is the rhyme scheme of the poem? What does the poet immortalize through the expression "O Captain! My Captain!"? [3]
- d Why does the Captain not answer? Why was the trip fearful? What did the [3]

captain contribute towards his nation?

- e 'The context of the poem raises the bar.' Do you agree? Discuss with reference to the poem. [4]

SECTION – C (PROSE)

Q7 **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:** [16]

His wife looked at his astonished and panic- stricken face and realized that he was not joking.

"9499?" she asked, turning pale and dropping the folded tablecloth on the table.

"Yes, yes...it really is there!"

(The Lottery Ticket-Anton Chekov)

- a Where are Ivan and Masha? What did Ivan's wife want him to check in newspaper? Why was the number 9499 important? [3]
- b What was Ivan's initial reaction to the thought that they may have won the ticket? What plans did Ivan make to utilize the prize money? [3]
- c Describe the happy visions of summer time that crowded Ivan's mind. Mention any two themes depicted in the prose. [3]
- d When Ivan planned to go abroad, where did he want to go? What kind of thoughts emerged in his mind about his wife? What had brought up this vision? [3]
- e What happened at the end of the story? Which aspects of human nature does this story highlight? What lesson does the story convey to its readers? [4]

Q8 **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:** [16]

"Go away," she said, to the Baroness, "I am not lonely anymore, I am one of a great old family..."

"I think she is dying," said the Baroness when she had rejoined her guests.

"I suppose we must send for a doctor...."

- a Mention the story and the author of the above extract. Whom was she addressing? [3]

- b Give an account of the events that followed sequentially when Amalie was about to die. [3]
- c Describe any two themes as depicted in the story. Give relevant examples for the same. [3]
- d Describe the character traits of the Baroness and Amalie (Governess). [3]
- e What does the newspaper notice, at the end of the story, imply? How has the author commented on the shallowness of the upper class society? [4]

Q9 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [16]

“Can you feed me?” I asked. “Can you cook?” he countered. “I can cook,” I lied. “If you can cook,” he said, “I’ll feed you.”

(The Thief - Ruskin Bond)

- a Who were the speakers? Who did tell a lie and why? [3]
- b Where did Arun take him? What happened that night? What was the reaction of Arun? [3]
- c Do you think that the title of the story is appropriate? Justify your answer with relevant examples. [3]
- d What did Arun bring home one evening? What did he do with it? What was the narrator’s feeling about it? [3]
- e What was the narrator’s idea about robbing a greedy, a rich and a poor man? What, according to the narrator, is a child’s play? [4]

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