

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2021 – 2022

SUBJECT: LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

ENGLISH Paper - 2

Std: X

Marks: 40

Date: 06/01/2022

Time allowed: One and a half hours

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**.

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

SECTION A

Question 1

Choose the correct answers to the questions from the given options. (Do not copy the question, write the correct answer only.) [10]

- (i) What shows that the event was a part of 'Special Olympics' in the poem, 'Nine Gold Medals'?
- (a) The spectators were holding posters.
 - (b) There was a banner above the finishing line.
 - (c) The anchor declared it in the final speech.
 - (d) The contestants were wearing special t-shirts.
- (ii) Why did people love Abou Ben Adhem?
- (a) They considered him to be their spiritual leader.
 - (b) He spent a lot of wealth on them.
 - (c) He fought against the enemies for his country.
 - (d) They had no other leader besides him.
- (iii) What is said about the flora of the planet Venus in the story, 'All Summer in a Day'?
- (a) It was barren.
 - (b) It was covered with forests.
 - (c) It was full of hills.
 - (d) It was filled with rivers.
- (iv) How was the atmosphere on the planet Venus?
- (a) Bright and colourful
 - (b) Dry and arid
 - (c) Dull and pale
 - (d) Slight drizzly

- (v) Why was Jesse Owens angry at Hitler?
- (a) because Hitler tried to exclude him from the games
 - (b) because Hitler was glaring at him
 - (c) because Hitler committed atrocities on the Jews
 - (d) because Hitler was a racist
- (vi) "I don't think we have met." Who said these words and to whom?
- (a) Luz Long to Jesse Owens
 - (b) Jesse Owens to Luz Long
 - (c) Jesse Owens' coach to Luz Long
 - (d) Hitler to Jesse Owens
- (vii) What kind of letter did the Duke receive?
- (a) A letter of recommendation
 - (b) A letter of apology
 - (c) A letter of discretion
 - (d) A letter of resignation
- (viii) Who is ready to pay twice the sum owned by Antonio?
- (a) Portia
 - (b) Balthazar
 - (c) Bassanio
 - (d) Gratiano
- (ix) Who climbed the walls of Troy?
- (a) Cressida
 - (b) Troilus
 - (c) Medea
 - (d) Jason
- (x) What news does Antonio receive when he comes to Portia's house?
- (a) His case has been dismissed.
 - (b) Shylock has been sent out of the country.
 - (c) Bassanio has found his ring.
 - (d) His ships have returned safely.

SECTION B

DRAMA

(The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare – Acts 4 and 5)

Question 2

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

ANTONIO:

I have heard

Your Grace hath ta'en great pains to qualify

His rigorous course; but since he stands obdurate

- (i) Where does this scene take place? Who is referred to as 'he'? [2]
- (ii) What reason does Doctor Ballerio give for not coming at the Duke's summon and who fills up the grace's request in his stead? [2]
- (iii) What is the meaning of 'strain'd'? Why is the quality of mercy not strained? [3]
- (iv) Bellario's letter stated that he had taken some measures to prepare the 'young and learned doctor' to deal with the case. What were they? [3]

SECTION C

PROSE – SHORT STORIES

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

Question 3

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

Margot stood apart from them, from these children who could ever remember a time when there wasn't rain and rain and rain.

(All Summer in a Day, Ray Douglas Bradbury)

- (i) Who was Margot? Who were 'these children'? [2]
- (ii) What were the children getting 'ready' for? [2]
- (iii) What set Margot apart from the other children? [3]
- (iv) Describe how the planet was transformed when the sun came out and shone briefly over it. [3]

Question 4

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

I was told that Hitler had kept him under wraps, evidently hoping to win the jump with him.

(My Greatest Olympic Prize, Jesse Owens)

- (i) When and where is the story set? [2]
- (ii) In which event had Jesse Owens been confident of winning a gold against Luz Long? Why? [2]

- (iii) Who was kept under wraps by Hitler? What surprised Jesse Owens at the trials? [3]
- (iv) What was the effect of Jesse Owen's anger on his trials? [3]

SECTION D

POETRY

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

Question 5

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

The angel wrote, and vanished. The next night
It came again with a great waking light,

(Abou Ben Adhem, Leigh Hunt)

- (i) What was the angel doing before it vanished? How did Abou Ben Adhem learn about it? [2]
- (ii) What disappointing fact did the angel tell Abou? [2]
- (iii) How did Abou react to the disappointing fact mentioned by the angel? [3]
- (iv) What message does the poem bring out? [3]

Question 6

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

But as sure as I'm standing here telling the story
Now it's a strange one, But here's what occurred

(Nine Gold Medals, David Roth)

- (i) What is the setting of the poem? What happened when one of the athletes fell down? [2]
- (ii) Why have the athletes been called resolved athletes? [2]
- (iii) What strange story was the narrator standing to tell? [3]
- (iv) How did the other contestants show empathy and compassion at the end of the poem? How was their exemplary behaviour applauded? [3]
