

VIBGYOR HIGH

SEMESTER 2 - PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION AY 2021 – 2022 ENGLISH LITERATURE

Grade: 10

Max. Marks: 40

Date: 15/02/2022

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.
 - You will not be allowed to write during the first 10 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.
 - The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].
 - This question paper contains 7 printed pages.
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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 is the tone used by the poet, Leigh Hunt, in 'Abou Ben Adhem'?
- (a) a tone of blissfulness
 - (b) a tone of serenity
 - (c) a tone of celebration
 - (d) a triumphant tone

- ii) According to David Roth, the world needs:
- (a) not more competition but more cooperation and collaboration
 - (b) not more collaboration but more competition and cooperation
 - (c) not more cooperation but more competition and collaboration
 - (d) more competition, collaboration and cooperation
- iii) Which phrase has been used in the poem 'Nine Gold Medals', to describe the venue where the spectators were gathered?
- (a) the field
 - (b) the ground
 - (c) the finish line
 - (d) the tracks
- iv) What was Jesse Owens thinking about while he 'was going over on the boat'?
- (a) His mind was preoccupied with thoughts of running the broad jump.
 - (b) His mind was preoccupied with thoughts of the Nazis' Aryan -superiority theory.
 - (c) His mind was preoccupied with thoughts of taking home one or two of those gold medals.
 - (d) His mind was preoccupied with thoughts of his new found friendship with Luz Long.
- v) What were the children on planet Venus peering out for?
- (a) to look at the great jungle that covered Venus
 - (b) to hear the drum and gush of water
 - (c) to take a look at the sweet crystal fall of showers
 - (d) for a look at the hidden sun
- vi) Why had the rocket men and women come to the raining world?
- (a) They had come from Earth to experience life away from it.
 - (b) They had come to experiment, earn money and achieve success.
 - (c) They had come to set up civilization and live out their lives.
 - (d) They had come to experience the technological advances on Venus.

- vii) Shylock analogizes his choice of 'a weight of carrion flesh' over receiving three thousand ducats with _____.
- (a) the purchased slaves of Christians sweating under burdens rather than being offered beds as soft as theirs
 - (b) men who do not love a gaping cat
 - (c) his thought of paying five thousand ducats to have a rat infesting his house, poisoned
 - (d) other men who cannot contain themselves when they hear the shrill notes of the bag-pipe
- viii) Which of the following characters is presented as noble but passive and an object of pity?
- (a) Bassanio
 - (b) Antonio
 - (c) Shylock
 - (d) the Duke of Venice
- ix) Name the character who is believed to have moved trees, stones and floods with his music.
- (a) Orpheus
 - (b) Troilus
 - (c) Pythagoras
 - (d) Pyramus
- x) According to Bassanio, Portia's strength of displeasure would be abated if she knew _____.
- (a) the virtue of the ring
 - (b) who asked him to give the ring
 - (c) how unwillingly he left the ring
 - (d) half the worthiness of the one who gave the ring

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:

PORTIA: It must not be; there is no power in Venice

Can alter a decree established:

'Twill be recorded for a precedent,

And many an error, by the same example,

Will rush into the state: it cannot be.

- i) To whose request does Portia respond in the given lines? What was the request made? [2]
- ii) Whom does Shylock compare Portia to? Mention two other praises that Shylock bestows her with. [2]
- iii) the world thinks, and I think so too..... [3]
What, according to the duke, is expected from Shylock when he enters the court of justice?
- iv) Why does the doctor of law doubt that Bassanio's wife would give him 'little thanks' for the offer made by him? How does Nerissa respond to a wish made by Gratiano on similar lines as Bassanio? How does this conversation alter the atmosphere in the scene? [3]

Question 3

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

LORENZO: Come, ho, and wake Diana with a hymn!

With sweetest touches pierce your mistress'

ear,

And draw her home with music. [Music]

JESSICA: I am never merry when I hear sweet music.

- i) Where does this scene take place? Who is 'Diana'? [2]
- ii) What were Jessica and Lorenzo playfully accusing each other of a while ago? [2]

Who had entered then?

- iii) Upon entering the scene, how does Portia explain Nerissa's remark: [3]
'When the moon shone, we did not see the candle.' Which attribute of hers does this highlight?
- iv) Later in this scene, how do Portia and Nerissa finally restore peace and [3]
harmony in the play?

SECTION C
PROSE - SHORT STORIES

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

Question 4

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

"Get away!" The boy gave her another push. "What're you waiting for?"

Then, for the first time, she turned and looked at him.

- i) How was Margot different from the other children? Mention any two points of [2]
difference.
- ii) What had Margot written about the sun in her poem? What had the children [2]
learnt about the sun in the class?
- iii) Describe what the children did as they 'rushed out, yelling into the springtime'. [3]
- iv) Where had Margot been locked? How did the other children behave after they [3]
realised their mistake?

Question 5

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

Suddenly all the tension seemed to ebb out of my body as the truth of what he said hit me.

- i) Naming the narrator, describe how he had prepared himself for the Olympics. [2]
- ii) What ideology was the narrator up against? How did it affect his performance? [2]

- iii) Which event did Jesse Owens think he was best at? Why? What had the German just said that had resulted in 'the tension' ebbing 'out of my body'? [3]
- iv) What had Pierre de Coubertin said about the modern Olympic Games? How was this epitomized at the Berlin Olympics by the German? [3]

SECTION D

POETRY

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

Question 6

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

And to the presence in the room he said,

"What writest thou?"

- i) What had made Abou 'bold'? Why had his name 'led all the rest'? [2]
- ii) How had the angel reacted to Abou's words, 'What writest thou?' [2]
- iii) What had the angel been writing before it vanished? How did the angel come again the next night? What makes this poem didactic? [3]
- iv) May his tribe increase! [3]
- Why does the poet make such a wish? What does it reveal of Abou?

Question 7

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

- i) Naming the 'I' in the extract, state why had the athletes 'come from so many countries'? [2]
- ii) Describe the scene just before 'the final event of the day'. Which phrase has been used in the poem to indicate that the race had started? [2]
- iii) Provide all the relevant details of the unfortunate incident that took place in 'the story' when the race began. [3]

iv) That's how the race ended....

Describing the end of the race, explain what made the 'Special Olympics' truly special.

[3]
