



**BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE**  
**FIRST TERM EXAMINATION (2024-25)**  
**CLASS - IX**  
**ENGLISH LITERATURE**

Maximum Marks: 80

Time allowed: Two hours

Answers to this Paper must be written on the answer sheet provided separately

You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes. The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

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This 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.

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**SECTION-A (Attempt all questions from this section)**

**Question 1**

[16]

Read the following questions and choose the most appropriate response from the choices given below. (Please do not copy the questions- simply write out in correct serial order the appropriate word or phrase.)

- 1). The second citizen said, "Truly, sir, all that I live by is with the awl". What is the literary device in the speech?  
a). Metaphor    b). Simile    c). Personification    d). Pun
- 2). What does the 'ordinary pitch' refer to in the speech of Flavius?  
a). Defeat of Caesar    b). Triumph of Caesar    c). Celebration of common people    d). Confined to the flight of common people
- 3). Who is referred to as 'chidden train' in Act I scene II?  
a). Cicero    b). Caesar    c). People who followed Caesar    d). Casca
- 4). Which of the following characters had a 'sour fashion' ?  
a) Brutus    b) Casca    c) Cassius    d) Caesar
- 5). He was a tall, thin man who wore black clothes and made coffins in the story, 'Oliver asks for more'. What is his name?  
a). Swubble    b). Unwin    c). Twist    d). Sowerberry
- 6). Give the name and profession of the person who invented a name for the baby.  
a). Mr. Bumble, a teacher in the town.    b). Mr. Bumble, an important officer in the town.  
c). Mr. Sowerberry, a doctor in the town.    d). Mr. Sowerberry, an important officer in the town.
- 7). At what time is the signal nearly due?  
a). 11:39    b). 11:40    c). 11:42    d). 11:41
- 8). "He will watch you without winking and he sees what you are thinking?" This above line suggests that Skimble shanks was sometimes like a .....  
a). King    b). Dictator    c). Leader    d). Friend
- 9). What is the literary device in the following line of the poem, 'Birds turn their heads as she approaches'.  
a). Metaphor    b). Simile    c). Personification    d). Alliteration
- 10). Which place is described as the field of apparatus?  
a). Aberdeen    b). Cranston    c). Glasgow    d). Edinburgh
- 11). What are the two literary devices used in the line, 'For who can bear to feel himself forgotten?'  
a). Alliteration and Personification    b). Alliteration and Rhetorical Question  
c). Personification and Rhetorical Question    d). Metaphor and Pun



12). For how many years had Bonku Babu taught Geography and Bengali at the Kankurgachchi village Primary school?

- a). Thirty two years    b). Twenty three years    c). Twenty two years    d). Twenty five years

13). Who looked like a flittermouse according to Bonku Babu?

- a). Bhairav Chakravarty    b). Nidhu Babu    c). Chandi Babu    d). Ramkanai

Q14). Who could change the conspiracy into virtue and worthiness like alchemy?

- a). Cinna    b). Brutus    c). Casca    d). Metellus Cimber

Q15). What is the power of every bondman to cancel his captivity?

- a). Use the dagger to kill the master    b). Use the dagger to kill himself    c). Both a and b    d). None of the above

Q16). Whose chair is referred to as the praetor's chair?

- a). Caesar    b). Marullus    c). Flavius    d). Brutus

**SECTION-B (Answer one or more questions from this section)**  
**DRAMA (Julius Caesar - By William Shakespeare)**

**Question 2**

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

Cassius: Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world like a Colossus, and we petty men walk under his huge legs

and peep about

To find ourselves dishonourable graves.

- a). Give the significance of Colossus in the speech of Cassius. (3)  
b). What does Cassius talk about the fates in his speech after these words? (3)  
c). How does he compare the names of Brutus and Caesar? (3)  
d). How does Cassius prove to Brutus that Caesar is weak? (3)  
e). How do you differentiate between the characters of Brutus and Cassius? (4)

**Question 3**

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

Casca : But wherefore did you so much tempt the heavens?

It is the part of men to fear and tremble,

When the most mighty gods by tokens send

Such dreadful heralds to astonish us.

- a). What were the 'dreadful heralds' in the scene? (3)  
b). Why couldn't the dreadful heralds frighten Cassius? (3)  
c). How do you justify that Cassius is a mastermind of the entire conspiracy against Caesar? (3)  
d). How does Cassius ensure the participation of Casca in their enterprise? (3)  
e). What job is assigned by Cassius to Cinna later in the scene? (4)

**SECTION-C**

**(Answer one or more questions from this section)**

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

**Question 4**

Read the extract from Treasure Chest short story, 'Oliver Asks for More' given below and answer the questions that follow:

One day Oliver and his friends described that one boy would walk up to the master after supper and ask for more soup. Oliver was chosen.

- a). Where do Oliver and his friends live and why? (3)  
b). What happened to Oliver after following the instructions of his friends? (3)  
c). Describe the master and tell his reaction when Oliver asked him for more soup. (3)  
d). What notice was put up on the workhouse gate after that action of Oliver? (3)  
e). What role did Mr. Bumble play in Oliver's life? (4)

**Question 5**

Read the following extract from Treasure Chest short story, 'Bonku Babu's Friend' and answer the questions given below:

Bonku Babu did not get upset by any of this. Only sometimes, he cleared his throat and said, "shame on you, boys!"

- a). What was the reason behind the calm of Bonku Babu despite the obnoxious demeanour of the boys? (3)
- b). What happened to Bonku Babu when he was attacked by a spook? (3)
- c). Why was the presence of Bonku Babu important in the meetings? (3)
- d). Give the description of how the boys used to tease Bonku Babu. (3)
- e). Describe how does an alien spacecraft bring a positive change in the life of Bonku Babu. (4)

**SECTION- D**

**(Answer one or more questions from this section)**

**POETRY (Treasure Chest- A Collection ICSE Poems and Short Stories)**

**Question 6**

Read the following extract from the poem, 'The Night Mail' by W.H.Auden and answer the questions that follow:

All Scotland waits for her:  
In the dark glens, beside the pale green sea lochs.  
Men long for news.

- a). For whom does all Scotland wait and why? (3)
- b). What is the figure of speech in the first line of the extract? (3)
- c). What does the poem celebrate? (3)
- d). What were the different hues of the letters in the poem? (3)
- e). Describe the journey of the train. (4)

**Question 7**

Read the extract from the poem, 'Skimbleshanks: The Railway Cat' by T.S. Eliot and answer the questions :

He's a cat that cannot be ignored;  
So nothing goes wrong on the Northern mail  
When Skimbleshanks is aboard.

- a). Give the characteristics of the cat due to which he cannot be ignored. (3)
- b). What facilities are given by the cat to the passengers in the night mail? (3)
- c). What does Skimbleshanks do to give the signal of 'All clear'? (3)
- d). How does the cat always look fresh and bright even in the watches of the night? (3)
- e). Describe the situation when the cat is missing at the time of night mail's departure. (4)

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