



BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE
SECOND TERM EXAMINATION (2023-24)

CLASS - IX
ENGLISH LITERATURE

Maximum Marks: 80

Time allowed: Two hours

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 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 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 [].

SECTION A

(Attempt all questions from this Section.)

Question 1

Choose the correct answers to the questions from the given options.

(Do not copy the question, write the correct answers only.)

[16]

(i) 'Phatik was on pins and needles all day long with excitement and lay awake most of the nights'

What is signified by 'on pins and needles'?

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| a. Being spooked | c. Being forlorn |
| b. Getting impairment | d. In a state of apprehension |

(ii) Brutus is believed to have made four major mistakes in the play. Which is **NOT** one of the mistakes?

- He does not let the conspirators take an oath
- He tells the conspirators not to kill Antony
- He lets Antony speak at Caesar's funeral
- He decides to help kill Caesar

(iii) Select the option that shows the correct connection between statements (1) and (2) from 'The Model Millionaire.'

- He made a magnificent figure in his rags
 - One of the richest men in Europe.
- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. 1 is the contradiction for 2 | c. 1 is independent of 2 |
| b. 1 is an example of 2 | d. 1 is the cause for 2 |

(iv) Brutus convinces the others that they do not need _____ in the conspiracy.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| a. Him | c. Cicero |
| b. Cinna | d. Casca |

(v) Choose the option that lists the sequence of events in the correct order

- Alan Trevor was the best man at their wedding.
 - He visited Alan's studio and found him busy painting a portrait of a beggar.
 - Taking pity on him, he gave the beggar the one pound he had in his pocket.
 - Luara scolded him for his recklessness.
- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| a. 1, 2, 3, 4 | c. 4, 2, 3, 1 |
| b. 1, 3, 2, 4 | d. 3, 1, 4, 2 |

(vi) Which figure of speech is used in the line, 'The servant was the master on this occasion'?

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| a. Irony | c. Simile |
| b. Idioms | d. Metaphor |

(vii) Who interrupts Brutus and Portia's conversation after the conspirators leave?

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| a. Cicero | c. Ligarius |
| b. Antony | d. Caesar |

(viii) I Remember, I Remember is a _____ poem.

- Reflective
 - Humorous
 - Emotional
 - Imaginary
- | | |
|------------|------------|
| a. 4 and 3 | c. 3 and 1 |
| b. 1 and 4 | d. 2 and 4 |

(ix) When the augurers examine animal entrails to determine if Caesar should leave the house, which organ do they **NOT** find?

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| a. A spleen | c. A stomach |
| b. A heart | d. A liver |

(x) What is the primary reason for the doctor's journal entry on this date?

- | | |
|---|--|
| a. To record a personal vacation experience | c. To describe a significant historical event |
| b. To document a medical discovery | d. To detail the daily routine at the hospital |

(xi) How does Decius interpret Calpurnia's ominous dream about Caesar's body?

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| a. A bountiful harvest | c. A blood curse |
| b. Slain enemies | d. Romans will gain lifeblood |

(xii) The flowers that grew in Hood's garden were ...

- Roses white and pink and violets and lily-cups
- Roses red and white and violets and tulips



- c. Roses white and black and violets and buttercups
d. Roses red and white and violets and lily- cups
- (xiii) 'You great clumsy, country fool!' who said to whom?
a. Phatik's aunt to Phatik
b. Phatik's mother to Phatik
c. Phatik's uncle to Phatik
d. Phatik's brother to Phatik
- (xiv) Select the option that correctly displays the traits of 'The fir trees' in Thomas Hood's garden
a. Tall and Slender
b. Dark and High.
c. Short and Bush
d. Thick and Short
- (xv) Makhan rose from Mother Earth blind as Fate and screaming like the Furies, here 'Screaming like the Furies' means
a. being happy
b. being sad
c. being extremely angry
d. being excited
- (xvi) How does Decius plan to convince Caesar to ignore his superstitions and show up to the senate?
a. A feast
b. Flattering his bravery
c. Giving him a sceptre
d. False prophesies

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:

Calpurnia Tell them that he is sick

Caesar What! Shall Caesar send a lie to them?

Have I shown my courage in so many battles to be afraid now to tell the truth to the old senators?

Decius, tell them that Caesar will not come today.

- (i) Where are the speakers at this moment? What day is this? [3]
(ii) What does Calpurnia dream? How did she interpret her dream? [3]
(iii) How does Decius interpret her dream? [3]
(iv) What reasons did Calpurnia state for not wanting Caesar to go to the Senate? [3]
(v) What other statements did Decius make to convince Caesar that he should attend the Senate? How was it that Decius had come on this scene at this time? [4]

Question 3

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

*They are the faction. O conspiracy,
Shamest thou to show thy dangerous brow by night,
When evils are most free? O, then by night,
Where wilt thou find a cavern dark enough
To mask thy monstrous visage?
Seek none, conspiracy;
Hide it in smiles and affability;
For if thou path, thy native semblance on,
Not Erebus itself were dim enough
To hide thee from prevention.*

- (i) Who comes after this extract? How are they dressed? Who reports Brutus of their arrival? [3]
(ii) What do the 'faction' and 'thy dangerous brow' mean? [3]
(iii) How does the conspiracy disguise itself at night and during the day? [3]
(iv) What is referred to as 'Erebus'? If conspiracy appears with its 'native semblance on', what would happen? [3]
(v) Why is it necessary to disguise the conspiracy? Give two of the precautions taken by the conspirators to hide the conspiracy.? [4]

SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)

PROSE

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

Question 4

Read the extract from 'The Home-coming' by Rabindranath Tagore and answer the questions that follow:

*One day he summoned up all his courage,
and asked his uncle: "Uncle when can I go home?"
His uncle answered: "Wait till the holidays come".*

- (i) Who 'summoned up' all his courage? Why did he want to go home? [3]
(ii) How did he feel when his uncle told him to wait till the holidays came? Why do you think did his uncle not take him to his home immediately? [3]
(iii) Which characteristic attributes of his uncle are revealed in the extract? [3]
(iv) Did he wait for the holidays to go home? Give any one reason to support your answer. [3]
(v) Which theme is accentuated in the extract? [4]

Question 5

Read the extract from the extract 'The Model Millionaire' by Oscar Wilde and answer the question that follows:

*'The Baron', said the old gentleman, with a smile,
'has commissioned me to bring you this letter;'
and he extended a sealed envelope.*

On the outside was written, '

*A wedding present to Hugh Erskine and Laura Merton,
from an old beggar, ' and inside was a cheque for £ 10,000.*

*When they were married Alan Trevor was the best- man,
and the Baron made a speech at*

the wedding- breakfast.

*'Millionaire models,' remarked Alan, 'are rare enough;
but, by Jove, model millionaires are rarer still!'*

- (i) Who was the old gentleman who brought the letter? What were the contents of the sealed envelope? [3]
- (ii) How did the Baron know that Hughie required money? What did he do to satisfy his needs? [3]
- (iii) What role did Trevor play in finalizing Hughie's marriage to Laura? [3]
- (iv) The story shows that the poor are generous in helping others. How did Hughie's charity to the beggar give him rich bounties? [3]
- v) Explain 'Millionaire models, are rare enough; but, by Jove, model millionaires are rarer still!' [4]

SECTION D

(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)

POETRY

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

Question 6

Read the following extract from the poem 'A Doctor's Journal Entry for August 6, 1945' by Vikram Seth and answer the questions that follow:

*I saw the shadowy forms of people, some
Were ghosts, some scarecrows, all were wordless dumb-
Arms stretched straight out, shoulder to dangling hand;
It took some time for me to understand
The friction on their burns caused so much pain
They feared to chafe flesh against flesh again.*

- (i) What does the speaker mean by 'shadowy forms of people'? Why were they looking so? [3]
- (ii) Elucidate briefly the horrifying effect of the bombing on the people, as described in the extract. [3]
- (iii) What caused the pain as the victims of the bombing moved? What is the suffering of the narrator as well as the wife in the poem? [3]
- (iv) Clarify- Feared to chafe flesh against flesh again. [3]
- (v) How does the poet Vikram Seth create an ambience of fear, hysteria and atrocity in the poem? [4]

Question 7

Read the extract from Thomas Hood's poem, 'I Remember, I Remember' given below and answer the questions that follow:

*I remember, I remember,
Where I was used to swing,
And thought the air must rush as fresh
To swallows on the wing;
My spirit flew in feathers then,
That is so heavy now,
And summer pools could hardly cool
The fever on my brow!*

- (i) What does the poet suppose when he is swinging? Which figure of speech is used in line 3 of this extract? [3]
- (ii) What do you understand by 'swallows on the wing'? Who are swallows? Why are they mentioned here? [3]
- (iii) How did the poet's spirit fly? What is the state of his spirit now? [3]
- (iv) How does this extract show the theme of sadness? [3]
- (v) 'And summer pools could hardly cool. The fever on my brow!' Elucidate what the poet meant by these lines. [4]

