



ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, PRAYAGRAJ
HALF YEARLY EXAM – OCTOBER 2023
(ENGLISH PAPER – 2) LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

Time: 2:00 Hrs.

Class 10

M.M.: 80

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 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 **[]***

SECTION A

*(Attempt **all** questions from this Section.)*

Question 1

Read the following questions and choose the most appropriate response from the choices given below (Please do not copy the question simply write in correct serial order the appropriate word or phrase.) [16]

- i) Whom did Shylock urge to help him find his daughter?
 a) Bassanio b) Antonio c) Salanio d) Tubal
- ii) Who says, 'I am a tainted wether of the flock'.
 a) Antonio b) Bassanio c) Duke d) Shylock
- iii) Tubal returns from Genoa with news, both good and bad, for Shylock. Which of the following did he NOT say to Shylock?
 a) That he had met Jessica, Shylock's daughter in Genoa.
 b) That in Genoa, he had heard the news of Antonio's misfortunes.
 c) That Jessica had spent eighty ducats in one night in Genoa.
 d) That he had been shown Shylock's ring that Jessica had traded in Genoa for a monkey.
- iv) What did Antonio tell Bassanio to do after his death _____
 a) Write his epitaph. b) Tell others about Antonio's sacrifice.
 c) Thank the Duke. d) Go back to Belmont.
- v) Who does Lorenzo favourably compare himself to when speaking to Jessica in Act III scene V?
 a) Launcelot b) Antonio c) Portia d) Shylock
- vi) Choose the correct option that list the sequence in the correct order.
 1.) a) He gave out a cry of frustration and anguish.
 2.) b) The signal was given, the pistol exploded.
 3.) c) Loud speakers called out the names of the runners.
 4.) d) All round the field the spectators were gathered.
 a.) i) 4,1,2,3
 b.) ii) 1,2,3,4
 c.) iii) 2,3,4,1
 d.) iv) 4,2,3,1
- vii) The word closest in meaning to the word 'Trow' is _____
 a) think b) see c) hear d) feel
- viii) Why was Sibia unable to grasp the blue bead in the clear silky water with her hand?
 a) Because of reflection
 b) Because of refraction
 c) Because it was dark
 d) Because of the crocodile
- ix) What did the Little Match Girl see when she struck the second match?
 a) A beautiful candle lit Christmas Tree.
 b) Her grandmother who loved her dearly.
 c) Bright stars shooting across the sky.
 d) A stuffed goose waddling towards her.



x) Shylock: "What wouldst thou have a serpent sting thee twice?"

Who is referred to as a serpent?

- a) Jessica b) Lorenzo c) Antonio d) Bassanio

xi) "Alack, it was I who leaped at the sun" suggests that the patriot was ..

- a) Very proud b) Very happy c) Overambitious d) Foolish

xii) Select the option that shows the correct relationship between statements (1) and (2) from the story, 'The Little Match Girl'.

1) She struck another match on the wall. Once more there was light and in the glow stood her old grandmother, oh, so bright and shining, and looking so gentle and loving.

2) Then she quickly struck all the rest of the matches she had in the packet, for she did so want to keep her grandmother with her.

- a) 1 is the cause for 2.
 b) 1 is an example of 2.
 c) 1 is independent of 2.
 d) 1 is a contradiction of 2.

xiii) Which of the following statements correctly sums up the meaning of 'empathy' in the poem Nine Gold Medals?

- a) Sacrificing self interest for the other person..
 b) Doing good and reaping harvest of good deeds.
 c) Putting yourself in another's shoes.
 d) Expressing lip sympathy for the other person.

xiv) How did Abou Ben Adhem speak to the angel?

- a) Rudely
 b) With humility
 c) He did not speak at all.
 d) None of the above

xv) Choose the correct set of options;

In the story, 'The Little Match Girl', the titular protagonist is _____

- i) famished ii) malicious iii) hapless iv) robust
 a) (i) and ii)
 b) ii) and (iv)
 c) (i) and (iv)
 d) (i) and (iii)

xvi) Name the poetic device used in the line, "Making it rich, like a lily in bloom".

- a) metaphor b) simile c) Alliteration d) Hyperbole

SECTION B

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

DRAMA

(The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare)

Question 2

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

Bassanio : *Therefore, thou gaudy gold,*

Hard food for Midas, I will none of thee;

Nor none of thee, thou pale and common drudge

'Tween man and man: but thou, thou meagre lead,

Which rather threatenest than dost promise aught,

Thy paleness moves me more than eloquence;

And here choose I; joy be the consequence!

- i) What is the occasion of Bassanio's speech? Where is he at the moment? [3]
 ii) What are his reasons for rejecting gold and silver caskets? [3]
 iii) What makes him opt for lead casket? How does he feel on finding Portia's picture in the lead casket? [3]
 iv) How does Portia present herself to Bassanio later in the scene? [3]
 v) Who gave the letter to Bassanio? What was Portia's reaction on seeing Bassanio's expression after reading the letter? [4]

Question 3

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

Gratiano: *O, be thou damn'd, execrable dog!
And for thy life let justice be accused.
Thou almost makest me waver in my faith,
To hold opinion with Pythagoras,.....*

- i) Where does this scene take place? Who is being called an 'execrable dog'? [3]
- ii) Explain why Gratiano reacts violently? How does Shylock react to Gratiano's accusations? [3]
- iii) Who was Pythagoras? What did he believe in? What was Gratiano's comment on the wolfish desires of Shylock? [3]
- iv) Who enters the scene a little later? In what disguise does that person appear? Who else accompanied that person and where have they come from? [3]
- v) What does Shylock demand from Antonio? Why? Was his demand justified? [4]

SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

PROSE--SHORT STORIES

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

Question 4

With all the force of her little body, she drove the hayfork at the eyes, and one prong went in-right in while its pair scratched past on the horny cheek.

The crocodile reared up in convulsion, till half his lizard body was out of the river, the tail and nose nearly meeting over his stony back. Then he crashed back, exploding the water, and in an uproar of bloody foam he disappeared.

- i) What did Sibia do when she heard the cry of the Gujar woman? What did Sibia aim at to harm the crocodile? What did she use to attack the crocodile to save the woman? [3]
- ii) What happened to the crocodile after it was attacked by Sibia? Where will the crocodile be found later and in what condition? Why will he be found in that condition? [3]
- iii) How did Sibia deal with the wounds of the Gujar woman? Where did she take her? How and where was she taken for further treatment? [3]
- iv) What was her mother's reaction on seeing Sibia? What did Sibia tell her mother out of excitement? [3]
- v) Explain 'daily heroism of the jungle.' [4]

Question 5

She struck another match, and suddenly she was sitting under the most beautiful Christmas tree. It was much larger and much lovelier than the one she had seen last year through the glass doors of the rich merchant's house.

- i) Describe each vision that the Little Match Girl saw. What does each vision symbolize? [3]
- ii) What did she visualize on the Christmas tree? What did she notice about the candle on the Christmas tree? What did that signify? [3]
- iii) What had the little girl's grandmother told her about the star when it fell? Explain the irony in this situation. [3]
- iv) Why does the author describe the little girl as 'the picture of misery'? [3]
- v) What happened to the girl in the end? Comment on the attitude of the people towards the downtrodden in the Victorian Era? [4]