



ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, PRAYAGRAJ

HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION 2024

ENGLISH LITERATURE – PAPER II

CLASS – X

TIME: 2 Hours

MM: 80

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 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. Choose the correct answers to the questions from the given options (Do not copy the questions, write the correct answers only) [16]

- How does Antony begin to sway public opinion of Caesar in his speech to the Roman citizens?
 - Antony proclaims that Brutus is dishonorable and accuses him of treachery.
 - Antony presents a wealth of factual evidence that disproves Brutus' charges against Caesar.
 - Antony emphasizes Brutus' honour and subtly challenges Caesar's ambition.
 - Antony reveals that Caesar was plotting against Brutus and so deserved to be assassinated.
- What is the outcome of Antony's speech at Caesar's funeral?
 - Brutus and Cassius are forced to flee from Rome.
 - The conspirators murder Antony to silence him.
 - Brutus and Cassius are arrested and put to trial.
 - Antony is declared the new leader of Rome.
- When Mark Antony says, ".....was Caesar's angel: Judge, o you gods how dearly Caesar Lov'd him, he refers to....."
 - Brutus
 - Octavius
 - Calpurnia
 - None of the above.
- "Bear with me; My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar, And I must pause till it come back to me."
These lines tell us that Antony is –
 - Remorseful
 - Regretful
 - Revengeful
 - Apologetic
- What physical evidence does Antony show to the crowd to stir their emotions during his funeral speech?
 - The dagger that Brutus used to stab Caesar.
 - Caesar's ripped clothing and wounded corpse.
 - A written letter outlining the conspirators' assassination plot.
 - Cassius's robes that are stained with Caesar's blood.
- The five stages of grief are described as shock, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance which of these stages is expressed in the following lines –
'And when great souls die, after a period peace blooms.'
 - Shock
 - Anger
 - Depression
 - Acceptance



7. Which of the following statements is not true of Adjoa in 'The Girl Who Can'?
 - a. She is a seven year old girl from Ghana.
 - b. She is laughed at by her grandmother.
 - c. She is proud of her abilities.
 - d. She is declared the best all round junior athlete.

8. What does Adjoa mean by 'the land of sweet soft silence'?
 - a. Her native village.
 - b. Her girlish dreams.
 - c. A land free of patriarchal norms.
 - d. Her mother's womb.

9. The man who shares Cinna's name is a _____.
 - a. Lawyer
 - b. Cobbler
 - c. Poet
 - d. Fisherman

10. Where does Octavius go when he returns to Rome after Antony's speech?
 - a. The senate
 - b. The Forum
 - c. Antony's house
 - d. Caesar's house

11. Which of the lines reflects Count de Lorge's valour?
 - a. Then threw the glove but not with love.
 - b. And 'mongst them sat Count de Lorge, with one for whom he sighed.
 - c. He bowed, and in a moment leaped among the lions wild.
 - d. I'll drop my glove, to prove his love.

12. In his speech Antony continuously refers to _____ and _____ as "honourable men".
 - a. Their Roman ancestors
 - b. Brutus and Cicero
 - c. Brutus and Cassius
 - d. Caesar and Octavius

13. Which of the following is NOT the theme of the poem *The Glove and the Lions*?
 - a. Vanity
 - b. Chivalry
 - c. Pride
 - d. Cruelty

14. What happens when a great soul dies?
 - a. It affects no one in the world
 - b. The air becomes light and rare.
 - c. The space is replaced by someone else.
 - d. All the above.

15. Mark Antony stirs the emotions of the crowd in his _____.
 - a. fare well speech
 - b. eulogy
 - c. epilogue
 - d. prologue

16. Assess the impact of education on Adjoa's life as depicted in *The Girl Who Can*?
 - a. It has no significant influence.
 - b. It is detrimental to her growth.
 - c. It empowers her and provides her with a sense of identity.
 - d. It creates a rift between her and her family.



SECTION-B

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

DRAMA

(Julius Caesar)

Question 2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

❖ **Antony:**

You all do know this mantle. I remember
The first time ever Caesar put it on:
'Twas on a summer's evening in his tent,
That day he overcame the Nervii.
Look, in this place ran Cassius' dagger through,
See what a rent the envious Casca made.
Through this the well-beloved Brutus stabbed. .

1. Who were the 'Nervii'? Why does Antony mention the names of Cassius, Casca and Brutus as he shows the mob the mantle of Caesar? [3]
2. State three arguments put forward by Antony earlier to prove that Caesar was not ambitious. [3]
3. Why does Antony refer to Brutus as well-beloved? Why was the stabbing of Caesar by Brutus referred to as the 'most unkindest cut of all'? [3]
4. Mention three ways Brutus' speech differs from Antony's. [3]
5. What characteristic of the mob is highlighted in this scene? State any two characteristic traits of Mark Antony revealed in this scene. Justify your answer by giving suitable reason. [4]

Question 3. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

❖ **Antony**

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears;
I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him. The evil that men do lives after them,
The good is oft interred with their bones;
So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus
Hath told you Caesar was ambitious;
If it were so, it was a grievous fault,
And grievously hath Caesar answer'd it.

1. Who has just addressed the people before Mark Antony? Give two reasons that he gave for assassinating Caesar. [3]
2. According to Brutus what 'grievous fault' had Caesar committed? How did he pay for it? Explain the line- 'the good is oft interred with their bones.' [3]
3. State which of Caesar's glories does Antony refer to in his speech a little later? What does he want to achieve by his speech. [3]
4. Later, in the scene Mark Antony reads out the will of Caesar, what were the contents of the will? [3]
5. The funeral speech was a common Roman custom. This scene shows two contrasting speeches of Brutus and Antony. Who, do you think is a better orator? Give reasons and examples to support your answers. [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 following extract from William Sleator's short story, 'The Elevator' and answer the questions that follows:

But he didn't get used to it. He was always afraid that it would stop suddenly and he would be trapped inside it for hours by himself. But it wasn't much better when there were other passengers

1. Who is 'he' referred to in the given passage? What is 'it' that he was afraid of? What was his greatest fear? [3]
2. Why was the elevator in Martin's building unpleasant to use? [3]
3. What was the other option beside the elevator? Was it better than the elevator? Give two reasons to support your answers. [3]



4. What did Martin find scarier than the elevator? Describe it. [3]
5. How does the story end? Explain what according to you would have happened at the end. Give a reason to justify your answer. [4]

Question 5. Read the following extract from the story, 'The Girl Who Can' and answer the questions that follow:

"Like all this business to do with my legs. I have always wanted to tell them not to worry. I mean Nana and my mother. That it did not have to be an issue for my two favourite people to fight over. But I didn't want either to be told not to repeat that or it to be considered so funny that anyone would laugh at me until they cried."

1. Where does the story take place? Explain the line, "Like all this business to do with my legs?" How old is Adjoa in the story? [3]
2. Who are Adjoa's two favourite people? What kind of legs did Nana believe a woman should have? What did Adjoa decide to do thereafter to find out? [3]
3. Who are 'they' who would laugh at her and why? What is Adjoa forbidden to do by her grandmother? [3]
4. Adjoa feels that her grandmother would not have stopped even if she heard her mother's weeping? Why? What does it say about her mother and grandmother? [3]
5. "Adjoa's triumph proves that women have a greater role in society than merely being able to bear children." With reference to the story, bring out the truth of the statement. [4]

SECTION-D

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

POETRY

Question 6. Read the following extract from the poem, The Glove and The Lions and answer the questions that follow:

**De Lorge's love o'erheard the King, a beauteous lively dame
With smiling lips and sharp bright eyes, which always seemed the same.
She thought, the Count my lover is brave as brave can be;**

1. Which King is being referred to in the above lines? What does De Lorge's love overhear? What did she decide to do thereafter? [3]
2. How did the Count react to her action? What did he do later? Why? [3]
3. Describe the fight between the lions in the pit? [3]
4. What is the meaning of, 'is brave as brave can be?' Who is being referred to as brave? [3]
5. Was it love or vanity that was displayed by the lady love of Count De Lorge? Give reasons for your answer. Justify the King's reaction in the end. [4]

Question 7. Read the following extract from Maya Angelou's poem, 'When Great Trees Fall' and answer the questions that follow:

**Great souls die and our reality, bound to them, takes leave of us.
Our souls, dependent upon their nurture, now shrink, wizened.**

1. What does the fall of great tree symbolize in the poem? What happens when someone emotionally attached to us departs forever? [3]
2. How does the poem highlight the dependance of human souls on great personalities for nourishment? [3]
3. What feeling is expressed by the following lines/phrases. [3]
 - a. promised walks never taken
 - b. After a period, peace blooms
 - c. lions hunker down.
4. How does the poem convey the intensity of grief experienced at the loss of a great soul? [3]
5. The poet says, "after a period peace blooms. "Do you agree with the statement? Give your opinion on whether or not time can heal the loss of someone dear to you. [4]