

(46) Appreciation of English Literary Texts

Note : Answer **five** questions only.

* Answer question **1** and **four** others, selecting **one** from each section - **POETRY, DRAMA, PROSE and FICTION.**

Part I

1. Section A – Answer all questions.

Read the following extracts and answer the questions given below each extract :

- (i) ‘SON of the old moon – mountains African!
Chief of the Pyramid and Crocodile!’
- (a) From where are these lines taken? Who wrote them?
(b) What is referred to in the first line? What background does it indicate?
(c) What does the second line reflect? What effect does it create? (05 marks)
- (ii) ‘Mother whose heart hung humble as a button.
On the bright splendid shroud of your son.’
- (a) Name the work from which these lines are taken. Name the poet.
(b) What is the situation referred to? Who are the affected parties?
(c) Why did the mother’s heart hang humble like a button? (05 marks)
- (iii) ‘And the marvelous rose became crimson, like the rose of the eastern sky. Crimson was the girdle of petals, and crimson as a ruby was the heart.’
- (a) From which text is this extract taken? Who wrote it?
(b) What event is highlighted in the extract? How did this event take place?
(c) What is the significance of the colour image? (05 marks)
- (iv) ‘A man dressed in the hunting costume of some remote period had just transfixed a stag with an arrow’
- (a) From which work is this line taken? Who is the writer?
(b) What is the situation described here? Through whose eyes are they described?
(c) How does the viewer respond to the picture? What aspect of his character is reflected here? (05 marks)
- (v) ‘Yes, that’s what the town-folk call it. They say cloth of that sort cannot be seen unless they go to Ten Jiku (heaven). It’s as valuable as that’
- (a) From which work is this extract taken? Who wrote it?
(b) What does ‘it’ refer to? How do the town-folk feel about it?
(c) What aspect of ‘it’ is brought out in this extract? (05 marks)
- (vi) ‘No, you don’t! You’re a rude, ill-bred man! Decent people don’t talk to a woman like that!’
- (a) Name the work from which these words are taken. Name the writer.
(b) Describe the tone of the speaker?
(c) What social attitudes are reflected in this extract? (05 marks)

Section B – Answer questions in either (a), (b) or (c).

Either

- (a) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it.

‘For five minutes the air quaked with shouts and the crash of musical instruments, and was white with a storm of waving handkerchiefs, and through it all a ragged lad, the most conspicuous figure in England, stood flushed and happy and proud, in the centre of the spacious platform, with the great vassals, of the kingdom kneeling around him.’

- (i) What is the situation referred to in the passage? Where does it take place? (02 marks)
(ii) How did the most conspicuous figure in England behave at this moment? (02 marks)
(iii) Write the meanings of the following words and phrases
(a) the spacious platform.
(b) vassals (02 marks)
(iv) What is the attitude to royalty reflected in this passage? (04 marks)

OR

- (b) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below it.

‘I sprang up and twisted and turned and bent trying to pull the books from behind my back, and the grey woman and her son with the square face were staring at me like I was the craziest thing they had encountered in their lives. The books were partially wet with sweat but still had the smell of fresh biscuits and I was grinning from ear to ear and wanting to shout and scream with joy and not caring a hoot what the grey woman and her square faced son thought.’

- (i) What is the situation presented in the paragraph? Where does this take place? (02 marks)
(ii) Why was the narrator happy? (02 marks)
(iii) Explain the following in your own words :
(a) the craziest thing
(b) not caring a hoot (02 marks)
(iv) Which theme in the novel do the events in this passage relate to? (04 marks)

OR

- (c) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below it.

“You pay attention to every detail. I have often wanted to ask you, why did you choose this business? Rather a specialized job, isn’t it?”

“When I was in jail I was given kitchen duties, and after coming out this seemed to me as good a business as any other.” He was slipping into a reminiscent mood, much to the relief of the cousin. “But the reputation of the shop is all due to Sivaraman; but for him I don’t know where I would be. I wanted to serve the public in my own way by making available pure sweets, particularly for poor children.”

- (i) What is the situation described in the passage? Who are the speakers? (02 marks)
(ii) What made the second speaker start his business? (02 marks)
(iii) What do the following phrases mean?
(a) a specialized job –
(b) a reminiscent mood – (02 marks)
(iv) Which aspects of the second speaker’s character are reflected in this passage? (04 marks)

Part II

POETRY

(Answer **one** question only)

2. 'Actions caused by sudden anger result in disastrous consequences'. Explain with examples from the poem **Farewell to Barn and Stack and Tree**.
3. "The poem **Richard Cory** suggests that the belief 'the rich are happy' is a myth." Comment with close references to the poem.
4. In **A Bird Came down the Walk**, the poet shows the independence of nature. Do you agree? Discuss with examples.
5. **The Clown's Wife** shows the gap between the public and private lives of popular people. Discuss with reference to the poem.
6. "Most humans do not think twice before they speak". Justify this statement providing evidence from the poem, **The Huntsman**.

(15 marks)

DRAMA

(Answer **one** question only)

7. 'Human beings' greed for money destroys the happiness and peace in their lives'. Discuss how this is reflected in the drama **Twilight of a Crane**.
8. "The sudden and dramatic changes of the two main characters create humour in the drama, **The Bear**. Discuss with examples.

(15 marks)

PROSE

(Answer **one** question only)

9. Is the punishment given to Nicholas in **The Lumber Room** fair? Justify your answer.
10. Attitudes towards love of the present society are reflected in the short story, **The Nightingale and the Rose**. Discuss this statement with particular reference to the professor's daughter.
11. "**The Lahore Attack** reflects the qualities of a good sportsman" Discuss.
12. "**Wave** brings out both selfishness and selflessness of human beings." Discuss with examples from the text.

(15 marks)

FICTION

(Answer **one** question only)

13. "It is birth and wealth that makes the difference between Tom Canty and Edward Tudor as the pauper and the prince". Comment on this statement with reference to **The Prince and the Pauper**.
14. What according to your point of view is at the heart of the conflict between Jagan and Mali? Discuss referring to the novel, **The Vendor of Sweets**.
15. The most moving feature of **Bringing Tony Home** is the relationship between the narrator and his dog. Comment.