

SOUTHERN PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MID TERM TEST - 2017

GRADE - 11

APPRECIATION OF ENGLISH LITERARY TEXTS

Name / Index No :

Time : 3 hours

- ❖ Answer five questions only.
- ❖ Answer question 01 and four others, selecting at least one from the sections NOVELS, POETRY, DRAMA, PROSE AND FICTION

Section A

Part I

(01) Read the given extracts and answer the questions given below.

- (i) *'In fine, we thought that he was everything
To make us wish that we were in his place.'*
- (a) From where are these lines taken? Who wrote them?
 - (b) Who speaks these words? Who is referred to as 'he' in the first line?
 - (c) Why does the narrator wish to be in 'his' place? (5 marks)

- (ii) *'So I have learned many things.
I have learned to wear many faces.'*
- (a) In which work do these lines appear?
 - (b) Who speaks these words? To whom are they spoken?
 - (c) Why does the narrator say that he had learned to wear many faces? (5 marks)

- (iii) *'He saw something behind me that I couldn't see. I didn't have time to turn around and look'*
- (a) From which text is this extract taken? Who wrote it?
 - (b) Who speaks these words? To whom are they spoken?
 - (c) What are the speaker's feelings towards the incident happening here? (5 marks)

- (iv) *'He told you twice, but you weren't listening. You often don't listen when we tell you important things'*
- (a) Name the work which this extract is taken? Who wrote it?
 - (b) Who speaks these words? To whom are they spoken?
 - (c) Why does the speaker utter these words? (5 marks)

- (v) *'To make a lot of money. So I want another piece of that cloth'*
- (a) From where are these lines taken? Who speaks the words?
 - (b) Who is the speaker? To whom are the words spoken?
 - (c) What is the speaker's attitude towards money? (5 marks)

- (vi) *'God, and may his soul rest in peace You've mourned him - and quite right, But you can't
go on weeping and wearing mourning ferever.'*
- (a) From which text is this extract taken? Who is the writer?
 - (b) Who speaks these words? Who is referred to as 'you' in the text?
 - (c) Why does the speaker ask her to stop weeping? (5 marks)

Section B

Answer questions in either (a), (b) or (c)

(a) Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end.

The crowd roared with laughter. The Prince picked himself out of the mud, and made fiercely at the sentry shouting;
'I am the Prince of Wales, my person is sacred; and shalt thou hang for laying thy hand upon me!'
The soldier brought his halberd to a present arms and said mockingly;
'I salute your gracious Highness .' Then angrily , 'Be off, thou rubbish!'

- (i) What is the situation given in the text? Where does it take place? (2 marks)
- (ii) Why is the Prince angry? (2 marks)
- (iii) Explain the following expressions.
- (a) fiercely
- (b) Be off, thou rubbish (2 marks)
- (iv) What does the passage reveal about the condition of the Prince at this situation? (4 marks)

(b) Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end.

For the next couple of weeks I moved around like in a dream and I lingered on in a world of memories and shadows. My mind was a confusing montage of images constantly cross-cutting between past and present, fantasy and fact. Through it all there was a recurring motif. It was an episode from my childhood over forty years back time, something which was always there in my memory as clearly as if it happened yesterday. But now it kept coming back to with an intensity I had never felt before.

- (i) What is the situation given in the passage? Where does it take place? (2 marks)
- (ii) Why does the speaker say that he moved around like a dream? (2 marks)
- (iii) Explain the following expressions.
- (a) a confusing montage of images
- (b) intensity (2 marks)
- (iv) What aspects of the speaker's character are revealed by the passage? (4 marks)

(c) Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end.

'I don't believe in engaging a cook.'
'Why not?'
'Do we engage a servant to do the breathing for us? Food is similar.'
'Oh, father, father,' the boy cried, 'don't you engage cooks in your sweetmeat shop?'
'Oh, that's different. It's like a factory and they are specialists and technicians,' said Jagan, giving full reign to his imagination.
The boy failed to grasp the distinction and cried desperately, 'I do not want you to cook for me.
We have our college canteen. I can look after myself.'

- (i) What is the situation given in the passage? Where does it take place? (2 marks)
- (ii) Why do you think Jagan does not like to engage a servant? (2 marks)
- (iii) Explain the meanings of the following words.
- (a) Giving full reign to his imagination.
- (b) desperately - (2 marks)
- (iv) What aspects of the boy's character are revealed by the passage? (4 marks)

Part II

POETRY

Answer one question only.

- (02) "In the poem 'A Bird Came Down the Walk', using a simple and common incident, Emily Dickinson brings out a serious message" Comment on this statement.
- (03) Jacques Prevert brings out a common conflict in family life in his poem "Breakfast" How does he do it?
- (04) "The author, a black, expresses her feelings at the discrimination she faced during her life, in the poem 'I know why the Caged Bird Sings.' How far do you agree with this statement.
- (05) Do you think 'The Camel's Hump' by Rudyard Kipling is a poem suitable for children? Justify your answer?
- (06) 'Father and Son' of Cat Stevens is an incessant conflict of generations. Justify the above statement.

DRAMA

Answer one question only.

- (07) Anton Chekhov Wittily presents the state of women in Russian Society in his drama "The Bear" Comment on this statement.
- (08) Present your opinion on Yu ZuwaJungi Kinoshita's treatment to the character of Tsu in his drama "Twilight of a Crane"

PROSE

Answer one question only.

- (09) Discuss the contribution of Nicholas's character to the themes of "Lumber Room" by Skai.
- (10) "In Kumar Sangakkara's speech at Colin Cowdrey Lecture, his genuine feelings towards his countrymen as well as his team members are clearly visible." Discuss.
- (11) Do you think that positive and negative features of humans are presented in "Wave" by Sonali Deraniyagala? Justify your answer.
- (12) Comment on the characters of the Young Student and Professor's Daughter in "The Nightingale and the Rose" by Oscar Wilde.

NOVEL

Answer one question only.

- (13) "Education through experience is an obvious factor in the novel "The Prince and the Pauper" by Mark Twain". Do you agree with this statements? give reasons.
- (14) Discuss the significance of Ambika's character in the novel "The Vender of Sweets' by R.K. Narayan.
- (15) "The unsophisticated and slow pace of life in the past is presented through the love and relationship between humans and animals" Present your views with reference to the novel "Bringing Tony Home" by Tissa Abesekara.

Part II

POETRY

Answer one question only.

- (102) In the poem "A Bird Came Down the Wall," using a simile and personification, Emily Dickinson brings out a serious message. Comment on this statement.
- (103) Hopkins' first brings out a common reader in daily life in his poem "Blessed are they that do not die."
- (104) "The sufferer's black, expressive face" is the description of the poet looking for life in the poem "I know not the Cause that brings thee down" by the poet.
- (105) In your view, "The Country House" by Keats and "Hymn to Proserpina" by Keats are equally powerful poems.
- (106) "Thee and thou of the flowers" is an unusual couplet of Keats. Justify the above statement.

DRAMAS

Answer one question only.

- (107) "Aunt Sarah's Will" presents the same (or different) version as "The House of the Dead" in the same play.
- (108) Present your opinion on Yeats' statement "The death of the poet is the death of the poet."

PROSE

Answer one question only.

- (109) Discuss the evolution of Keats' character in the novel "The House of the Dead" by Keats.
- (110) "The House of the Dead" is a novel by Keats. The general feeling towards his character is not in his own mind but clearly visible. Discuss.
- (111) The two first and last parts of Keats' character are presented in "The House of the Dead" by Keats. Justify your answer.
- (112) Comment on the character of the young girl in "The House of the Dead" by Keats.

NOVEL

Answer one question only.

- (113) "The House of the Dead" is a novel by Keats. The character of the young girl is not in his own mind but clearly visible. Discuss.
- (114) Discuss the significance of Keats' character in the novel "The House of the Dead" by Keats.
- (115) "The House of the Dead" is a novel by Keats. The character of the young girl is not in his own mind but clearly visible. Discuss.