

GREENLAWNS HIGH SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION YEAR – 2016-17

SUBJECT : ENGLISH- II
TIME : 2 HRS.

CLASS : X
MARKS : 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. This time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt **five** questions in all.

You must attempt **one** question from each of the **Section A,B and C** and any **two** other questions. The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets []

SECTION ‘A’ DRAMA

Q.I. Read the extract given below and answer the following questions.

Bassanio : “Tis not unknown to you Antonio

How much I have disabled mine estate”.

- a) Where are Bassanio & Antonio? What according to Bassanio is not unknown to Antonio? Elaborate. [3]
- b) What childhood example does Bassanio put forth to Antonio before unfolding his plan? [3]
- c) What does Bassanio actually want from Antonio? Why? What urges Bassanio to take this risk? [3]
- d) What is Antonio’s predicament at this juncture? How does he plan to overcome it? [3]
- e) What type of relationship do Antonio and Bassanio share? What does this scene reveal about Antonio & Bassanio’s personality? Who is a better person? Why? Give a reason to support your answer. [4]

Q.II. Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:

Portia : “Tarry Jew,

The law hath’ yet another hold on you.

It is enacted in the laws of Venice

If it be proved against -----“

- a) What is enacted in the laws of Venice? [3]
- b) What mercy does Antonio now render to Shylock? What other conditions are put forth by him? [3]

- c) How do Bassanio and Antonio gratify the 'young gentleman' a little later? [3]
- d) A little earlier in the scene, Portia enters dressed as a doctor of law with a letter. What were the contents of the letter? [3]
- e) Which two adjectives would describe Portia in this scene? List two major differences between Jessica and Portia. Whom do you appreciate and why? [4]

SECTION 'B' - POETRY

Q.III. Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:

'Sarla and Tarla are married
Their husbands are very nice boys'

- a) Who is the narrator? To whom is he speaking? How do they know each other? What is the speaker's present occupation? What type of a poem is this? [3]
- b) What details does the speaker give about his children and sons? Explain the term 'black sheep'. Why was the expression used? [3]
- c) According to the speaker what is the price of old age? Briefly comment on his health. [3]
- d) How many questions does the speaker ask the listener? What were the questions? How old is the speaker? What tells us that he is optimistic? [3]
- e) 'Now you are a man of weight & consequence' what does the line suggest? Bring out the significance of the above remark? Narrate an example from the poem which is ironical [4]

Q.IV. Read the extract given below and answer the following questions.

'I kept on firing on them, Sir.. I tried to do my best,
But finally sat down with this small pain in my chest'

- a) Where is the speaker sitting? Whom did he beckon and why? What is the significance of 'small pain in my chest' [3]
- b) How long did the battle last? What could be seen in the morning? What optimism did the speaker portray despite his state? [3]
- c) With reference to the term 'Asian dirt' explain where the battle took place and why? [3]
- d) What makes the speaker feel foolish? What are his thoughts about his wife and mother's reaction? [3]
- e) What were the last words of the speaker to the narrator? What message does the poem convey? [4]

SECTION – ‘C’ – PROSE

Q.V. Read the extract given below and answer the following questions. [16]

“Both are equally immoral,” observed one of the guests, “for they both have the same object ----“

- a) Who had given a party? What was being discussed? Why were most guests against the topic of discussion? [3]
- b) What was the host’s opinion on the topic of discussion? Explain the term ‘humane’. [3]
- c) What did the lawyer choose? Why? What did the host do on an impulse? [3]
- d) According to the terms of the agreement what was the lawyer not permitted to do? What did he do in the second half of the sixth year? [3]
- e) What does the lawyer finally say in his letter to the host about the bet, and its terms? What in your opinion is the message conveyed through this lesson? [4]

Q.VI [16]

‘My lost dollar’ highlights the hypocrisy and double standards of human beings with a tinge of humour. --- Discuss this with reference to the lesson.