

You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes. This time is to be spent reading the question paper. The time given at the head of the paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

SECTION A

ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION

Question 1

Choose the correct option:

1. What is the speaker's tone in the given lines?

*Is this a holiday? 'know you not being mechanical, you ought not walk upon a labouring day...'*

- a) angry and commanding
- b) friendly and welcoming
- c) suspicious and cautious
- d) confused and uncertain

2. What does the phrase, '*letters for the rich, letters for the poor*' suggest:

- a) the mail is distributed based on wealth
- b) It receives more letters from the rich, than the poor
- c) The poor receive more letters than the rich
- d) The mail is delivered to people of all social classes

3. Why is the train referred to as 'she' in the poem?

- a) it personifies the train and gives it a human quality
- b) it symbolizes the nurturing and caring nature of the train
- c) It reflects the train's slow movements on track.
- d) It emphasizes the power and strength of the train.

4. What does Oliver's request for 'more' symbolize in the story, '*Oliver Asks for More*'?

- a) His rebellious nature and desire for change.
- b) The kind conditions and adequate provisions for orphans.
- c) His greed and selfishness
- d) The corrupt system, and its mistreatment of the poor.

5. 'Who else would soar above the view of men  
and keep us all in servile fearfulness'

Who do the words '*who*' and '*us*' refer to?

- a) Pompey-Flavius and Marullus
- b) Caesar-Flavius and Marullus
- c) Pompey-the citizens of Rome
- d) Caesar- the citizens of Rome

6. '*For who can bear to feel himself forgotten?*' Which literary device is used here:

- a) Simile
- b) Metaphor
- c) Rhetorical question
- d) Irony

7. Why did the flowers seem to be '*made of light*'?

- a) They were beautiful, but delicate.
- b) They were white but light.
- c) They were shining in reflection.
- d) They were of different colours.

8. '*And thought the air must rush as fresh  
to swallows on the wing.*'

Identify the figure of speech in the above line:

- a) *Metaphor*
- b) *Personification*
- c) *Simile*
- d) *Enjambment*

9. Why was the silence eerie according to Bonku Babu?

- a) There was absolute silence.
- b) It was evening time.
- c) The animals were asleep.
- d) There was no light only a dull light shown on every branch.

10. After the doctor assisted in the birth of the baby, he:
- a) Went to tend to other patients
  - b) Went to speak to Mr. Bumble
  - c) Went home to have dinner
  - d) All of the above.
11. On which day does the play open?
- a) March 25
  - b) March 16
  - c) March 15
  - d) None of the above
12. Why is Skimbleshanks called the railway cat?
- a) He loves trains.
  - b) He is a stray cat that lives on the train.
  - c) He runs the night mail.
  - d) He controls things on the train.
13. What do the people who anticipate letters dream of?
- a) of receiving notes in the mail
  - b) of terrifying, monsters having formal tea
  - c) Of the prompt timing of the night mail
  - d) Of the things they will do when they wake up.
14. What is the form and tone of Skimbleshanks?
- a) Descriptive, morose
  - b) Ballad, humorous,
  - c) Narrative, humorous,
  - d) Narrative, didactic
15. In the story, 'Oliver Asks for More', what is the 'usual story' being referred to by the doctor?
- a) that she delivered a child
  - b) that she was poor

- c) that the young woman had walked for miles
- d) that she was an unmarried mother

16. What shades of paper are the letters written on?

- a) Pink, lavender white & blue
- b) Rose, lavender, white & blue
- c) Pink, violet, white & blue
- d) red violet white & blue

### SECTION B

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

#### DRAMA

Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare

#### Question 2

Antony: *I shall remember when Caesar says 'Do this,' it is performed.*

Caesar : *Set on and leave no ceremony out.*

- a) What is Antony referring to when he says, ' I shall remember'? What is the belief behind the ceremony? [3]
- b) Explain the significance of the day; What does Brutus remark when Cassius says that he must watch the games [3]
- c) What do you gauge about Caesar from this scene? Comment on the relationship between Caesar and Antony. Give two reasons for your answer. [3]
- d) What is referred to as the 'great flood' ? Explain the context [3]
- e) Later, in the speech narrated by Cassius. He proclaims that he is superior to Caesar and cites an incident. Elaborate the incident [4]

#### Question 3

Brutus: 'Tis good. Go to the gate; Somebody knocks.

[Exit Lucius]

'Since Cassius first whet me against Caesar I have not slept.  
Between the acting of a dreadful thing and the first motion all the  
interim is like a phantasma or a hideous dream.....'

- i) Where does the scene take place? Mention the characters present here. [3]
- ii) To what does Brutus reply, 'Tis good'? Who is knocking at the gate? Why has he come? [3]
- iii) State the significance of the phrase 'like a Phantasma'; how does it reveal the mental frame of Brutus? [3]
- iv) later in the scene, why is Brutus against including 'someone' in the conspiracy? Identify that person. What reasons had been given in his favour? [3]
- v) Explain the context & meaning of the following lines in your own words; What else does the speaker add?  
'Those that with haste will make a mighty fire.  
Begin it with weak straws; what trash is Rome?' [4]

### SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

#### PROSE-SHORT STORIES

##### Question 4

The beggar himself was standing on a raised platform at the corner of the studio, he was a wizened, old man, with a face like wrinkled parchment, and a most piteous expression..'

- i) Who was the 'beggar'? Describe the appearance of the beggar (The answer must mention the dress, the shoes and the posture) [3]
- ii) How does Hughie try to convince Alan that the model deserves more money and respect? State how these remarks reflect on the character of Hughie [3]
- iii) Who was Colonel Merton? Why won't he agree to the engagement? [3]

- iv) Explain the play of words in the following lines:  
 'Millionaire models are rare enough but by Jove, model millionaires are rarer still...' In the present times, do we need millionaire models or model millionaires? Why? [3]
- v) '*What you call rags, I call romance. What seems poverty to you is picturesqueness to me*': Who makes this statement? What does this tell you about the relation between poverty and artistic realism and the commercialization of art? [4]

### Question 5

*'During the weekend, Bonku Babu went to the lawyer, Sripati Majumdar's house to spend the evenings with other regulars'*

- i) How was Bonku Babu dominated by his peers? Site the example of the 'spook' [3]
- ii) Describe Ang's appearance in your own words [3]
- iii) How does Ang prove that he is superior to human beings? [3]
- iv) What does Ang say to Bonku Babu after his observation about him? [3]
- v) How does Bonku Babu take his sweet revenge at the end of the story? What is the response of his friends? [4]

## SECTION D

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

### POETRY

### Question 6

'The laburnum on his birth-day -  
 the tree is living yet!'

- i) Explain the given extract in your own words. What does the phrase 'tree is living yet!' suggest? [3]

- ii) What does the phrase, 'Came peeping in at morn:' mean?  
Mention the different kinds of flowers that blossomed in his garden [3]
- iii) What do you understand by 'swallows on the wing'? How does it highlight the pleasures of childhood? [3]
- iv) Explain the phrase, 'my spirit flew in feathers then'. How is it (the spirit) heavy now ? [3]
- v) What was the poet's' childish ignorance'? Mention any one childish ignorance that you may have nurtured during your childhood? [4]

### Question 7

B] 'You may say by and large it is Skimble who's in charge Of the Sleeping Car Express.

- i) Where was Skimble at the onset? Who were the people looking for him? What did they assume he might be doing?[3]
- ii) 'Skimble does not approve of certain things.' What are those? What is the result of Skimble being 'about and on the move'; What assists him with his inspection? [3]
- iii) List the different stations, the train halts at; Mention the work done by Skimble at each of the stations [3]
- iv) 'A true leader is the one who 'walks the talk' ; Highlight the truth in this quote, with reference to the valuable lessons that modern leaders can learn from Skimbkleshanks [3]
- v) List the facilities available to the First-class passengers [4]

