

Std: IX
Date: 12/09/25

Terminal Examination
English Literature

Marks: 80
Time: 2 hrs

Answers to this paper must be written on the paper provided separately.
You will not be allowed to write during the first **fifteen** minutes.
This time is to be spent on reading the question paper.
The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

SECTION A
ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION

Question 1 [16]

Choose the correct option:

1. Flavius wants to drive away the vulgar from the streets of Rome.
What does he mean by the word 'vulgar'?

- a) the people of Rome who were impolite
- b) the Tribunes of Rome
- c) obscene
- d) the common people

2. '*..... disrobe the images, if you do find them decked with ceremonies.*'
Who speaks these lines and to whom?

- a) Flavius to Marullus
- b) Marullus to Flavius
- c) Flavius to the wandering workmen
- d) Marullus to the citizens

3. '*Pray to the gods to intermit the plague.*': What does Marullus mean by the word 'plague'?

- a) a contagious disease
- b) a disease spread by rats
- c) the punishment that they must face
- d) the anger of Caesar

4. The novel, 'Paul and Virginia' was composed by :

- a) Marge Piercy
- b) T.S. Eliot
- c) Thomas Hood
- d) Charles Dickens

5. '*And thought the air must rush as fresh*

to swallows on the wing;'

Identify the figure of speech reflected in the first line of the extract

- a) metaphor
- b) simile
- c) enjambement
- c) assonance

6. The legendary poetic work, '*Rubaiyat*' was composed by:

- a) Vikram Seth
- b) Rukhsar Ali Begh
- c) Omar Khayyam
- d) T.S. Eliot

7. The word, 'croons' in the poem '*A Work of Artifice*' means:

- a) hum or sing in a soft low voice
- b) crying in a corner
- c) women's rights
- d) laughing loudly

8. The following line in the poem, '*Skimbleshanks : The Railway Cat*:

'The northern part of the Northern Hemisphere!' is an example of:

an example of:

- a) Alliteration
- b) Metaphor
- c) Hyperbole
- d) Simile

9. Oliver's mother pressed her cold lips to his face and then....

- a) smiled
- b) began to weep
- c) fell back and died
- d) went to sleep

10. In the poem, 'Skimbleshanks' the word 'nimble' means:
- a) dull
 - b) sharp
 - c) eat
 - d) quick
11. In the poem, 'I Remember, I Remember' the phrase, 'night had borne my breath away', indicates:
- a) sleep
 - b) death
 - c) rest
 - d) None of the above
12. Bonku Babu felt uncomfortable
- a) due to the alien's way of examining Bonku Babu's arms and legs
 - b) as the strange creature made Banku Babu fear him
 - c) as he suspected the creature to be a ghost
 - d) as the creature was tall and had a weird face
13. What was Ramkanai's idea about 'Saturday'?
- a) Saturday is a weekend
 - b) Saturday is inauspicious
 - c) Saturday is auspicious for ghosts and spooks
 - d) to avoid doing any good work on Saturday.
14. The theme of the poem, '*A Work of a Artifice*' is:
- a) suppression of women
 - b) inequality
 - c) deception
 - d) all of the above
15. In the poem, 'A work of Artifice', the word, 'dwarf' means:
- a) to curb someone's needs
 - b) to curb someone's growth
 - c) to trivialise someone
 - d) none of the above
16. This person is regarded as the founder of Rome and the ancestors of all Romans:

- a) Ennius
- b) Apollo
- c) Aeneas
- d) Anchises

SECTION B
(Answer one or more questions from this Section)
DRAMA
Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare

Question 2

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

*Cassius: 'And why should Caesar be a tyrant then?
Poor man! I know he would not be a wolf
But that he sees the Romans are but sheep;
He were no lion, were not Romans hinds.'*

- a) Where does the scene take place? Mention the characters present here (3)
- b) Who is the listener? What had he said just before the above extract? (3)
- c) Towards the end of this scene, what does the speaker direct one of the characters to do? What else does he say? (3)
- d) One of the characters comments about the '*richest alchemy*'; What is the significance of this statement? Mention the character who passes this remark (3)
- e) Explain the above extract in your own words, highlight the figures of speech reflected in the lines of the extract (4)

Question 3

*' Since Cassius first did 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:
The genius and the mortal instruments
are then in council;*

- a) *Explain the following lines:* (3)
- i) *Cassius first did whet me against Caesar*
- ii) *The genius and the mortal instruments...*
- b) Who enters the scene now? What does he announce? What else is added by the person later? (3)
- c) Identify the figures of speech reflected in the lines of the extract; State its context (3)
- d) What are the reasons given by Metellus to include Cicero in the plan? (3)
- e) What does Cassius propose to do? State his reasons for the proposal (4)
- Mention any two reasons given by Brutus to turn down this proposal

Section C

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

PROSE-SHORT STORIES

TREASURE CHEST-A Collection of ICSE Short Stories and Poems

Question 4

Trevor: 'I should think so! Such beggars as he are not to be met with every day. A living Velasquez!'

- a) Describe the model's appearance in your own words: (3)
- b) What does the author's remark about Hughie Erskine mean: 'He had tried everything.....'? Elaborate (3)
- c) Why does Trevor reveal everything about Hughie to the 'beggar'? Give a detailed account of the revelation of the identity of the 'beggar' to Hughie? (3)
- d) **Who was Velasquez?** Explain the play of words reflecting in the lines: (3)

'Millionaire models are rare enough;

but, by Jove, model millionaires are rarer still!'

- e) Draw a character sketch of Hughie Erskine and Alan Trevor

(Some traits you may derive on the basis of the extract given above: Elucidate the textual context of their traits too (4)

Question 5

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

‘On one particular day, the topic of conversation was space-in other words, they were talking of space ships and space travels.’

- a) What had Chandi Babu suggested about the above topic of conversation? Who had claimed credit for spotting something? Who deserved the credit? What had been spotted? (3)
- b) Describe Ang’s appearance in our own words (3)
- c) What did Ang say about his destination? Which similar incident had happened earlier with Ang? (3)
- d) What does Ang say about Bonku Babu’s nature? What was the sound advice given to him? (3)
- e) How does the encounter with Ang make Bonku Babu determined to avenge his humiliation and teach the group a bitter lesson? Elucidate with reference to the last speech given by him (4)

Section D :

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

Poetry

TREASURE CHEST-A Collection of ICSE Short Stories and Poems

Question 6

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

*‘I Remember, I Remember,
The roses, red and white,...’*

- a) List all the flowers and birds mentioned in the poem and elaborate on its significance: How is Nature portrayed in the poem? (3)
- b) Identify the device used in the first line of the given extract: How does it bring out the central theme of the poem? Elucidate the other devices too (3)

c) What does the poet remember about his brother? How does it stir a memory of his childhood? (3)

d) How has adulthood changed the poet? Do you think that the poet is being realistic or it's an exaggeration? Justify your answer (3)

e) What was 'a childish innocence' that the poet remembers? State any two instances of your own 'childish innocence' that you recall (4)

Question 7

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

'You can play no pranks with Skimbleshanks! He's a cat that cannot be ignored;'

a) What was the exact time when the signal for the Night Mail to depart was due? Who are the different people searching for Skimbleshanks? (3)

b) What does 'hunt the thimble' mean? What was Skimbleshanks doing at this time? Bring out the contrast in the scene after Skimble appears (3)

c) How does Skimbleshanks establish control? What is he intolerant of? What helps Skimbleshanks to stay fresh and bright? (3)

d) Specify the three main facilities provided to the passengers of the First class (3)

e) List the different stations the Night Mail crosses; Mention how Skimbleshanks was engaged in his duty at every station (4)
