

**GREENLAWNS HIGH SCHOOL  
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2025-26**

**STD: X  
SUB: ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**TIME: 2 HOURS  
MARKS: 80**

- 
- The paper has **four** sections.
  - **Section A** is compulsory- All questions in section A must be answered.
  - You must attempt **one** question from each of the Sections B, C, and D and one other question from any section of your choice.
  - The intended marks for questions are given in brackets []
  - Answers to this paper must be written in the answer sheet which is provided separately.
  - You are not allowed to write during the first 15 minutes. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

**SECTION A**

**(Attempt *all* questions from this section)**

**Question 1**

Read the following questions and choose the most appropriate response from the choices given below (Please do not copy the question- simply write the answer in correct serial order.)

(16)

1. What was the task given to Metellus Cimber?
  - a. To strike Caesar first.
  - b. To draw Antony out of the way.
  - c. To approach Caesar on the pretext of presenting his suit.
  - d. To keep an eye out for the supporters of Caesar.
2. When had Caesar worn the mantle that Antony shows the people?
  - a. The day he defeated Pompey.
  - b. At the feast of Lupercal.
  - c. At his home.
  - d. The day he overcame the Nervii.
3. What had Cinna dreamt at night?
  - a. He had feasted with Caesar.
  - b. Brutus had talked to him.
  - c. He had been called to the Senate.
  - d. His poems had become famous.
4. What is Octavius' opinion of Lepidus?
  - a. He is a fool.
  - b. He is a tried and valiant soldier.
  - c. He is crafty.
  - d. He is shrewd.

5. Why is Brutus not afraid of Cassius' threats?
  - a. He is stronger than Cassius.
  - b. He is armed with his honesty.
  - c. The people of Rome love him.
  - d. He is more powerful than Cassius.
6. What is meant by "bloody sign of battle"?
  - a. The blood of battle.
  - b. A sign that the battle will be bloody.
  - c. The red flag of battle was hung out.
  - d. Blood had been spilt and turned everything red.
7. Which of the following is NOT associated with the spirits in the poem?
  - a. They glide.
  - b. They throng.
  - c. They waft.
  - d. They wail.
8. Who termed the occasion of the royal sport to be "divine"?
  - a. King Francis.
  - b. Count de Lorge.
  - c. The Queen.
  - d. Beloved of Count de Lorge.
9. Which of the following poetic devices is used in the title of the poem. "Great Trees Fall"?
  - a. Simile
  - b. Personification
  - c. Metaphor
  - d. Alliteration
10. In the poem, 'A Considerable Speck', according to the speaker, the modern world is swept by which of the following?
  - a. Individualism.
  - b. Collectivistic Regimenting love.
  - c. Selfishness.
  - d. Collectivistic Resigning Love.
11. Who are referred to as "wretched brutes" in the poem The Power of Music?
  - a. The horses.
  - b. The bulls.
  - c. The fish
  - d. All of the above

12. Choose the option that lists the sequence of events in the correct order.

1. 'Oh, there' nothing to see yet, he said, 'I have to develop the negative first.
  2. When the photographer came out at last, he looked very grave and shook his head.
  3. The photographer had pulled a string. The photograph taken.
  4. Go on then with your brutal work.
- a. 4,3,2,1
  - b. 2,3,1,4
  - c. 2,1,3,4
  - d. 3,4,2,1

13. Select the option that shows the correct relationship between statements (1) and (2) from 'The Elevator'

1. "What am I going to do with you, Martin? Honestly, now you're afraid of some poor old lady".
  2. Martin started running down the stairs. The stairs were dark and he fell.
- a. 1 is the cause for 2
  - b. 1 is an example of 2
  - c. 1 is independent of 2
  - d. 1 is a contradiction of 2

14. What is the one serious problem Adjoa had to face?

- a. She could not laugh when her grandmother laughed.
- b. She could not express herself.
- c. She could not understand the language of the elders.
- d. None of the above.

15. In the story 'The Pedestrian' people driving in their cars during the day are compared to \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Birds
- b. Robots
- c. Insects
- d. Phantoms

16. Which lesson did M. Hamel conduct after grammar lesson?

- a. Arithmetic
- b. Literature
- c. Writing
- d. None of the above.

## 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: I an itching palm!

You know that you are Brutus that speak this,

Or, by the gods, this speech were else your last.

Brutus: The name of Cassius honours this corruption,

And chastisement doth therefore hide his head.

1. Explain the phrase, "an itching palm". What had Brutus accused Cassius of earlier which made Cassius use this phrase? [3]
2. Earlier in the scene how does Cassius accuse Brutus regarding Lucius Pella? [3]
3. Immediately after the above-mentioned dialogue Brutus reminds Cassius of an incident which took place in the past? Which was the incident and when did it take place? How does Brutus connect that action to the present behaviour of Cassius? [3]
4. Later in the scene how does Brutus describe the choleric behaviour of Cassius? How would Brutus react to this choleric behaviour of Cassius? [3]
5. Later in the scene Brutus accuses Cassius of denying gold to Brutus. Why did Brutus need that gold? What punishment does Brutus expect gods to give him if Brutus himself becomes 'covetous'? What explanation is given by Cassius for this accusation? [4]

#### Question 3

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

Pindarus: Fly, therefore, noble Cassius, fly far off.

Cassius: This hill is far enough. Look, look Titinus:

Are those my tents where I perceive the fire?

1. Where does this scene take place? Earlier in this scene Cassius mentions about some villains. Who were they? What did Cassius do with one of those villains? Why? [3]
2. What instructions are given by Cassius to Titinus immediately after the above dialogue? [3]
3. Why does Cassius ask Pindarus to go up the hill after this dialogue? What does Pindarus see from the hill? [3]

4. What does Cassius ask Pindarus to do for the last time? What would Pindarus get in return for this action? What are the last words of Cassius in this scene? [3]
5. Name the two characters who enter the scene immediately after Pindarus leaves. What message is brought by one of the characters which would have comforted Cassius? [4]

### SECTION C

(Answer *one or more* questions from this section)

#### PROSE

(Treasure Chest- A collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

#### Question 4

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

I had to open the door and go in before everybody. You can imagine how blushed and how frightened I was.

But nothing happened. M. Hamel saw me and said very kindly:

“Go to your place quickly, little Franz. We were beginning without you”.

1. What had Franz seen from the window? [3]
2. Describe the usual scene whenever the school would begin. [3]
3. Describe the attire worn by M. Hamel that day? [3]
4. What surprised Franz the most when he looked around the class? Describe it. [3]
5. What announcement was made by M. Hamel immediately after the above-mentioned scene? [4]

#### Question 5

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

It was an old building with an old elevator- a very small elevator, which could carry

Only three people. Martin, a thin twelve-year-old, felt nervous in it from the first day he

And his father moved into the apartment. Of course he was always uncomfortable in

Elevator, afraid that they would fall, but this one was especially unpleasant.

1. Why was this elevator especially unpleasant? [3]
2. Why did Martin feel that the stairs of the building were equally not good? [3]
3. Where did Martin's father work? What did his father's facial expression seemed to say to Martin once when he entered home out of breath that made him realise that he should get used to the elevator? What was one more negative thing which Martin had got used to against his will? [3]
4. Did Martin get used to the elevator? What was he always afraid of when he would enter the elevator in the beginning? What did he dislike in the elevator? [3]
5. What was the fat lady wearing? How has the writer described her face? [4]

SECTION D

(Answer *one or more* questions from this section)

POETRY

(Treasure Chest- A collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

Question 6

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

When summer comes, we hear the hums

Bhisma Lochan Sharma.

You catch his strain on hill and plain from Delhi  
down to Burma.

He sings as though he's staked his life, he sings  
as though he's hell-bent;

the people dazed, retire amazed although they  
knew it's well-meant.

1. What happens to the people after listening to Bhisma Lochan Sharma as mentioned immediately after the above lines? Name the figure of speech used in the second line mentioned above. [3]
2. In the poem, people plead to Bhisma Lochan Sharma twice. What do they plead to him? Name the two figures of speech used in the third line mentioned above. [3]
3. Explain the following line and state the poetic device used in this line.  
And in the sky the feathered fly turn turtle while they're wringing.  
Name the poet. [3]
4. What is the effect of Bhisma Lochan Sharma's singing on bullock-carts and aquatic creatures? How would you describe the behaviour of Bhisma Lochan Sharma using one adjective? [3]
5. Who rescues everyone from Bhisma Lochan Sharma? What adjective has the poet used to describe this rescuer? How does the rescuer rescue everyone from Bhisma Lochan Sharma? In what ways are you affected when you read about the fate of humans, animals and even non-living things impacted by the voice of the singer? [4]

### Question 7

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

The spirit-world around this world of sense  
Floats like an atmosphere, and everywhere  
Wafts through these earthly mists and vapours dense  
A vital breath of more ethereal air.

Our little lives are kept in equipoise  
By opposite attractions and desires;  
The struggle of the instinct that enjoys,  
And the more noble instincts that aspires.

1. What does the poet mean by the phrase, "world of sense"? Name and explain the figure of speech used in the second line of the first verse given above. [3]
2. Who wafts through "earthly mists"? Explain the last line of the first verse given above. [3]
3. Whose lives is the poet referring to in the first line of the second verse given above? State the figure of speech used in this line. What is the meaning of "equipoise"? [3]
4. In the earlier verse just before the first verse mentioned above, the poet describes the materialistic attitude of the "spirit- world" when trying to claim their ownership of property. How has the poet described it? [3]
5. What is the poet trying to tell the readers in the last two lines of the second verse given above? [4]