

Greenlawns School, Worli
Final Examination
English Literature

Std: IX
Marks: 80

Date: 19/02/26
Time: 2 hrs

Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

The first 10 minutes is allotted for reading the question paper.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in the brackets.

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.

SECTION A

(Attempt all questions from this Section.)

Question 1

A] Choose the correct option:

[16]

1. The phrase uttered by Casca when asked about Caesar's conversation with Cicero, '*It was Greek to me*' meant:

- a) I do not know Greek language
- b) I am well versed with Greek
- c) I could not understand it
- d) None of the above

2. What persuasive techniques does Cassius use to manipulate Brutus into joining the conspiracy against Caesar?

- a) Emotional appeal and flattery
- b) Logical reasoning and evidence
- c) Threats and intimidation
- d) Sarcasm and mockery

(3) *Who else would soar above the view of men
And keep us all in servile fearfulness*

To whom is Caesar compared to in these lines?

- a) Pompey
- b) Flavius and Marullus

- c) Eagle
- d) Falcon

4) *'Let it be who it is: for Romans now
Have thews and limbs like to their ancestors'*

Who speaks these words and to whom?

- a) Cassius to Brutus
- b) Cassius to Casca
- c) Cicero to Casca
- d) Cinna to Cassius

5) What is the significance of the use of storms and omens in the play?

- a) They represent the impending downfall of Rome
- b) They symbolise the inner turmoil of certain characters
- c) They foreshadow Caesar's assassination
- d) They reveal the interference of the Gods in human affairs

6) Which literary device has been used in the following phrase, *'a mender of bad soles'*?

- a) onomatopoeia
- b) imagery
- c) pun
- d) metaphor

7) What does Flavius think of the common men who are in the streets?

- a) that they are lazy
- b) that they are miserable
- c) that they are poor
- d) that they are patriotic

8) The moving point of light seen by the residents of Kankurgachhi three months ago turned out to be

- a) a shooting star
- b) a Russian satellite called Khotka
- c) a Chinese satellite
- d) an American spaceship

9) Identify and put the events of the story, '*The Homecoming*' in the sequential order:

- A. Makhan sauntered up and sat on the log
- B. Every one seconded the proposal and it would be carried out unanimously.
- C. He was pushed, rather timidly, by one of the boys.
- D. A new mischief got into Phatik's head.

- a. D, B, A, C
- b. B, A, C, D
- c. A, B, C, D
- d. D, A, B, C

10) Select the option that shows the correct relationship between statements

(1) and (2) from the story, '*The Home-coming*':

(1) She was in daily fear that he would either drown Makhan some day in the river, or break his head in a fight, or run him into some danger or the other.

(2) He rushed at Makhan and hammered him with blows.

- i) 2 contradicts 1
- ii) 2 is the cause of 1
- iii) 2 is independent of 1
- iv) 2 is an example of 1

11) Why is ***Skimbleshanks*** called the railway cat?

- a) He is a stray cat that lives on the train
- b) He runs the Night Mail
- c) He controls things on the train
- d) He loves trains

12) Which, among the following the Night mail does not cross?

- a) Beattock
- b) Glasgow
- c) Edinburgh
- d) Dublin

13) What are the people who receive letters in the poem, '*The Nightmail*' dreaming of?

- a) Of receiving notes in the mail
- b) Terrifying monsters, having formal tea
- c) Of the things they will do when they wake
- d) Of the prompt timing of the night mail

14) The alien in the story, 'Bonku Babu and His Friend', had landed on the Earth by mistake: Where was he supposed to go?

- a) Mars
- b) Jupiter
- c) Venus
- d) Pluto

15) Bonku Babu was the first person to spot the strange light but another person snatched the credit for it: Who was that person?

- a) Sripati Majumdar
- b) Chandi Babu
- c) Nidhu Babu
- d) Ramkanai

16) What kind of tone is adopted by the speaker in the poem, 'A Doctor's Journal Entry of August 6, 1945'?

- a) sentimental
- b) ironic
- c) detached
- d) sarcastic

SECTION B

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

DRAMA: JULIUS CAESAR

Question 2

Brutus: *And so it is. For this time I will leave you.*

Tomorrow, if you please to speak with me,

I will come home to you: or if you will,

Come home to me, and I will wait for you.

Cassius: *I will do so; till then, think of the world.*

(Exit Brutus)

Well, Brutus, thou art noble; yet, I see,

thy honourable mettle may be wrought

*From that it is dispos'd: therefore 'tis meet
That noble minds keep ever with their likes;*

- a) To what does the phrase '*And so it is*' refer? Who had been the subject of their exchange? What has been revealed? [3]
- b) What does the term, '*think of the world*' mean? Why must Brutus think of the world? [3]
- c) Draw a character sketch of Cassius based on the given extract: Mention the two figures of speech in the above extract giving the detailed explanation of the same. [3]
- d) Complete the above dialect in your own words [3]
- e) How does Cassius plan to further his goal that night? [4]

Question 3

Decius: '**This dream is all amiss interpreted
it was a vision, fair and fortunate;**'

- a) **Where does the scene take place? Mention the characters present here.** [3]
- b) **How does Decius interpret the dream? Earlier what had made him confident that he could bring Julius Caesar to the Capitol?** [3]
- c) **How does Decius further the reasoning to convince Julius Caesar to come to the Capitol? Which trait of Julius Caesar does he exploit to his benefit?** [3]
- d] **Reflect on the position of women as portrayed by Calpurnia and Portia in the play; How does it become an ironical portrayal?** [3]
- e] **State any four horrid sights seen by the guard as recounted by Calpurnia** [4]

SECTION C

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

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

Question 4

Mrs Srivastava had to do some shopping. She gave instructions to the ayah...

- i) State the instructions given by Mrs. Shrivastava to the servants. Where was she headed? Why? (3)
- ii) What did Mrs. Srivastava reveal to Mrs. Bhushan? What was her reply? (3)

- iii) What did Deep Chand mean when he remarked, '*the bird has flown*': How did it add to the possible collapse of the bank? (3)
- iv) Who do you think is truly responsible for the breaking of the bank? Give reasons to support your answer. (3)
- v) Who was Ganpat? What was the shocking sight seen by the people at the marketplace when he heard the news? (4)

Question 5

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

'Phatik wiped his face and sat down on the edge of a sunken barge on the river bank, and began to chew a piece of grass.'

- i) Where was the stranger all this while? Why had he not shown up for 14 years? (3)
- ii) Why did Phatik feel sheepish and ashamed at the sight of the stranger? (3)
- iii) According to the mother, what was the difference between the two brothers? What did the stranger offer to do? (3)
- iv) What was the constant fear of the mother? What did Phatik bequeath to Makan? Why did he do it? What does the word bequeath imply? (3)
- v) List the things and places that Phatik missed about his village life and caused great longing and grievance to him (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 from the poem, '**A Work of Artifice**' by Marge Piercy and answer the questions that follow:

***'The bonsai tree in the attractive pot
 Could have grown eighty feet tall
 On the side of a mountain
 Till split by lightning'***

- a) What do you understand by the term '**artifice**' in the context of the poem? What is the bonsai tree stand for? How is the tree's potential growth curbed? [3]
- b) What does the gardener represent? What does he do to the bonsai tree? Why? [3]

c) Expound the line: 'it is your nature to be small and cozy, domestic and weak' [3]

Give the significance of the title, '*A Work of Artifice*'

d) State the similarities between the bonsai tree and women emphasizing the constraints of a *Patriarchal Society* [3]

e) In what ways can the cultivation of bonsai trees and the practices of beauty pageants or the prospective brides in the matrimonial columns be seen as similar in their approach to limiting natural potential for the sake of aesthetic appeal [4]

Question 7

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

***'There is a whisper down the line at 11:39
When the night mail is ready to depart,
Saying 'Skimble where is Skimble has he gone to hunt the thimble?'***

- a) Who is Skimble? What work does he do? What does '*hunt the thimble*' mean and what was Skimble doing at this time? [3]
- b) What was the departure time of the train? Draw a contrast between the onset of the poem and the scene after Skimbleshanks appeared? [3]
- c) What aides Skimbleshanks during his duty? Elucidate the reference made to Skimble's eyes [3]
- d) '**Skimbleshanks stands for an authoritative figure, who is indispensable in the functioning of the train.**' Justify the statement highlighting the patriotism portrayed by the poet. [3]
- e) List the stations the train halts at? Mention the duties fulfilled by Skimbleshanks at each of these stations [4]
-