

Board
Class X English Literature
Sample Paper-1
(Two hours)

General Instructions:

Total 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.
The time given at the head of the paper is the time allotted for writing the answers.*

*Attempt **five** questions in all.
You must attempt One question from each of the **Sections A, B and C**
and any **two** other questions.
The intended marks of questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].*

SECTION A - DRAMA
The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare

Question 1.

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

Portia: In terms of choice I am not solely led

 By nice direction of a maiden's eyes.

 Besides, the lottery of my destiny

 Bars me the right of voluntary choosing.

 But if my father had not scanted me

 And hedged me by his wit to yield myself

 His wife who wins me by that means I told you,

 Yourself, renowned Prince, then stood as fair

 As any comer I have looked on yet

 For my affection.

- (i) Who is Portia talking to in the above lines? [3]
- (ii) Why did Portia say that she could not choose voluntarily? [3]
- (iii) Name the three suitors who come to seek Portia's hand. [3]
- (iv) What trick according to Portia, will work on the duke of Saxony's nephew? [3]

(v) What were the conditions laid down by Portia's father with choosing the casket? (4)

Question 2.

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

Antonio: Grieve not that I am fall'n to this for you,
For herein Fortune shows herself more kind
Than is her custom. It is still her use
To let the wretched man outlive his wealth,
To view with hollow eye and wrinkled brow
An age of poverty—from which lingering penance
Of such misery doth she cut me off.
Commend me to your honorable wife.
Tell her the process of Antonio's end.
Say how I loved you. Speak me fair in death.
And when the tale is told, bid her be judge
Whether Bassanio had not once a love.

- (i) When and to whom is Antonio talking to? [3]
- (ii) What does the bond say? [3]
- (iii) Who is present in the court to save Antonio? [3]
- (iv) What punishment does the court decide for Shylock? [3]
- (v) Describe the friendship between Antonio and Bassanio in your own words. [4]

Loyalties: John Galsworthy

Question 3.

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

MABEL: [After a moment's struggle] Oh! No! No, no! I'll follow—I'll come out to you there.

DANCY: D'you mean you'll stick to me?

MABEL: Of course I'll stick to you.

- (i) Where is Mabel thinking of following Dancy? [3]
- (ii) Why does Dancy want to go away? [3]
- (iii) Why does Dancy ask Mabel if she will stay with him? [3]
- (iv) What reason does Dancy give Mabel for stealing money? [3]
- (v) Do you think the climax of the play is justified? State reasons for your opinion. [4]

Question 4.

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

WINSOR: Look here, De Levis! This isn't a hotel. It's the sort of thing that doesn't happen in a decent house. Are you sure you're not mistaken, and didn't have them stolen on the course?

DE LEVIS: Absolutely. I counted them just before putting them under my pillow; then I locked the door and had the key here. There's only one door, you know.

WINSOR: How was your window?

DE LEVIS: Open.

WINSOR: [Drawing back the curtains of his own window] You've got a balcony like this. Any sign of a ladder or anything?

Where are Winsor and De Levis at this time? [3]

(i) Who is Lady Adela? What instructions have been given to her? [3]

(ii) Who enters the scene after sometime? What questions does Winsor ask that person? [3]

(iii) What suggestions are given to Winsor by the person who enters a short while later? How does Winsor react to this? [3]

(iv) On whom does De Levis express suspicion? How does he think the theft took place? [4]

SECTION B – POETRY
A Collection of Poems

Question 5.

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

Sarla and Tarla are married
Their husbands are very nice boys.
You won't believe but I have eleven grandchildren.
How many issues you have? Three?
That is good. These are days of family planning.
I am not against. We have to change with times.
Whole world is changing. In India also
We are keeping up. Our progress is progressing.
(The Professor: Nissim Ezekiel)

- (i) Why is it unbelievable that poet has eleven grandchildren? [3]
- (ii) Do you think that the poet has a problem with family planning? [3]
- (iii) What do the poet's sons work as? How does it reflect on the typical Indian perspectives on success? [3]
- (iv) What does the poet say about his daughters? Does it reflect gender bias? [3]
- (v) What does the speaker say about India's progress? [4]

Question 6.

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

What do you make O ye goldsmiths?
Wristlet and anklet and ring
Bells for the feet of blue pigeons,
Frail as a dragon-fly's wing,
Girdles of gold for the dancers,
Scabbards of gold for the king.

- (i) What is the rhyme scheme of the above lines? [3]
- (ii) Which of the five senses do the items sold by merchants in the above lines please? [3]
- (iii) What are the bells for the pigeons compared to? [3]
- (iv) What do the goldsmiths make for the king and the dancers? [3]
- (v) What are the figures of speech used in the poem? [4]

SECTION C – PROSE
Collection of Short Stories

Question 7.

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

But this beautiful creature of metallic scales, with poison in its teeth, wanted only to get away, as the boy himself did. It subsided and slid off into the matted grass. Sher Singh drew a breath. The snake-feeling left his legs and he was able to walk on.”

- (i) Which creature has been described as ‘beautiful creature of metallic scales’? What did it do when Sher Singh stepped closer to it? [3]
- (ii) Where was Sher Singh heading towards? [3]
- (iii) Why did Sher Singh quicken his steps at night? [3]
- (iv) Why couldn’t Sher Singh’s mother take Kunwar to the hospital? [3]
- (v) What challenges did Sher Singh face on his way through the forest? [4]

Question 8.

The banker agreed to give the young man two million on a condition that he spends fifteen years in solitary confinement. How did the young man spend 15 years alone? Did the banker pay the young man the million? [16]

Animal Farm: George Orwell

Question 9.

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

It was just after the sheep had returned, on a pleasant evening when the animals had finished work and were making their way back to the farm buildings, that the terrified neighing of a horse sounded from the yard. Startled, the animals stopped in their tracks. It was Clover's voice. She neighed again, and all the animals broke into a gallop and rushed into the yard. Then they saw what Clover had seen.

It was a pig walking on his hind legs.

- (i) Why was Clover terrified to see? [3]
- (ii) What did the sheep bleat as they followed the pigs? [3]
- (iii) How many commandments did Benjamin and Clover see on the wall? [3]
- (iv) Who was invited by the pigs for a tour of inspection? [3]
- (v) How do the slogans sung by the sheep and the other actions contradict the Commandments of the Animal Farm? [4]

Question 10.

How is the ending of Animal Farm a stark contrast to the beginning of the story? Explain with reference to examples from the book. [16]

To Sir, With Love: E.R. Braithwaite

Question 11.

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

Denham looked at me pityingly, slipped the gloves off his large hands and casually dropped them at my feet. He had made his point. Looking quickly at the others I could read the disappointment and disgust in their faces. They thought I was afraid, scared of the hulking, loutish fellow.
'Okay, let's go.'

- (i) Who is Denham and where does the incident take place? [3]
- (ii) What does the narrator realize about Denham when they begin to box? [3]
How does he try to defend himself?
- (iii) Give a brief account of another incident during the PT session between Mr Bell and Buckley. [3]
- (iv) Describe the Headmaster of Greenslade Secondary School. [3]
- (v) What conversation did the Headmaster have with the narrator before he accepted the job about the way children were treated in the school? [4]

Question 12.

Describe the incident between Patrik Fernman and Bobby Ellis. Why did the narrator want to go to the Juvenile Court? What was the outcome of the court proceedings? [16]
