

21001081

ENGLISH
PAPER 2
(LITERATURE IN ENGLISH)
(Prescribed Textbooks)

Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allotted: Three Hours

Reading Time: Additional Fifteen Minutes

Instructions to Candidates

1. You are allowed an **additional fifteen minutes** for **only** reading the question paper.
2. You must **NOT** start writing during reading time.
3. This question paper has **7 printed pages and one blank page**.
4. It has **five questions** in all.
5. Answer **all** questions.
6. While answering **Question 1 in Section A**, you are required to **write only ONE option as the correct answer**.
7. **Internal choice** has been given in the **long answer question** on Drama, Prose and Poetry.
8. **Do not exceed the prescribed word limit** while answering the questions in Section B.
9. The intended marks for questions are given in brackets [].

SEAL

Instruction to Supervising Examiner

1. Kindly read **aloud** the Instructions given on page 1 to all the candidates present in the examination hall.
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SECTION A – 20 MARKS

Question 1

[10]

Choose the correct options for the following questions.

- (i) In Act V Scene i of the play, *Macbeth*, the Gentlewoman says, “It is an accustomed action with her,...” What “accustomed action” of Lady Macbeth is the Gentlewoman referring to?
- (a) Crying herself to sleep
 - (b) Action of reading a book before sleeping
 - (c) Practice of keeping a Bible by the bedside
 - (d) Constant rubbing of her hands as if washing them
- (ii) In Act IV Scene iii of the play, *Macbeth*, which ‘vice’ according to Macduff “grows with more pernicious root”?
- (a) Lust
 - (b) Avarice
 - (c) Gluttony
 - (d) Jealousy
- (iii) “Macbeth shall never vanquish’d be, until
Great Birnam wood to high Dunsinane hill
Shall come against him.”
What does this prophecy in Act IV Scene i of the play, *Macbeth*, suggest about Macbeth’s fate?
- (a) His downfall is impossible.
 - (b) He will win in the end despite his enemies.
 - (c) He can escape his fate through clever manipulation.
 - (d) He will be defeated when the impossible becomes possible.
- (iv) In Act V Scene iii of the play, *Macbeth*, Macbeth tells the Doctor to “cast / The water of my land, find her disease”. What prompts Macbeth to say so?
- (P) Attack on Scotland by Macduff
 - (Q) Growing unrest within the nation
 - (R) Deterioration of Lady Macbeth’s health
 - (S) Movement of Birnam wood towards Dunsinane
- (a) Only (P) and (Q)
 - (b) Only (P) and (S)
 - (c) Only (Q) and (R)
 - (d) Only (Q) and (S)

- (v) What strikes terror in Aniruddha's heart as he gets caught in the storm in the short story, *Indigo*?
- (a) A wrong turn
 - (b) Thunder and lightning
 - (c) Absence of spare tyres
 - (d) Absence of human beings
- (vi) Which one of the following **BEST** describes Charushashi's demand to learn English with Tarapada, in the short story, *Atithi*?
- (a) Her ambition to learn
 - (b) Her spoilt and pampered nature
 - (c) Her desire for Tarapada's attention
 - (d) Boredom and lack of creative activities
- (vii) Read the following two statements from the short story, *The Cookie Lady*, and choose the correct option from the ones given below.
- Statement I:** "I don't like it", he murmured. "I don't want him going there anymore."
- Statement II:** "Mrs. Drew, my father says I can't come here anymore. He says this is the last time. I thought I'd tell you."
- (a) Statement I is the reason for Statement II.
 - (b) Statement II is the reason for Statement I.
 - (c) Statements I and II are similar.
 - (d) Statements I and II are not related to each other.
- (viii) What is 'dreadful' about silence in the poem, *Small Towns and the River*?
- (a) It indicates loneliness.
 - (b) It symbolises stagnation in life.
 - (c) It reminds people of their failure.
 - (d) It is associated with death and grief.
- (ix) In the poem, *Beethoven*, the poet says that Beethoven had to 'earn' his father's mercy. How did he do so?
- (a) By praising his father
 - (b) By running errands for his father
 - (c) By running away from his father
 - (d) By practising till he reached perfection

- (x) In the poem, *Telephone Conversation*, the speaker describes his skin as 'West African sepia'. What does this suggest about him?
- (a) Preference for a specific shade
 - (b) Pride in his heritage and legacy
 - (c) Retaliatory and sarcastic attitude
 - (d) Confusion about his race and tribe

Question 2

Complete the following sentences by providing a reason for each in brief. Do not write the question. [10]

- (i) In Act III Scene vi of the play, *Macbeth*, Lennox wants "some holy angel to fly to the court of England" because _____
- (ii) In Act III Scene iii of the play, *Macbeth*, Banquo instructs his son, Fleance to flee because _____
- (iii) In Act IV Scene i of the play, *Macbeth*, Macbeth goes to the witches because _____
- (iv) In Act V Scene iii of the play, *Macbeth*, the Doctor longs to be away from Dunsinane because _____
- (v) In the short story, *The Medicine Bag*, Martin's mother is hesitant to embrace Grandpa upon his arrival because _____
- (vi) In the short story, *The Cookie Lady*, Mrs. Drew sat next to Bubber during their reading sessions because _____
- (vii) The rooms are dusted and cleaned away by the robot mice in the short story, *There Will Come Soft Rains*, because _____
- (viii) In the poem, *Death Be Not Proud*, the poet says that even the best of men on earth succumb to death because _____
- (ix) The poem, *Tithonus*, opens with a reference to the woods, the clouds and man because _____
- (x) In the poem, *Small Towns and the River*, the poet says 'Small towns grow with anxiety' because _____

SECTION B – 60 MARKS

MACBETH – WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Question 3

- (i) How do Scenes i and ii of Act III reflect a change in Macbeth's character? [5]
Incorporate the following details and write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words.
- Macbeth's interaction with Banquo and the murderers
 - Revelations about Macbeth's character
- (ii) Referring closely to Act V Scene iii of the play, *Macbeth*, bring out Macbeth's [5]
growing insecurity.
Incorporate the following details and write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words.
- Conversation with the Doctor
 - Treatment of the Servant
- (iii) (a) Macduff is a man of action and integrity and not of emotions. [10]
Discuss the statement by making adequate references to the Acts studied.
Write your answer in 200 - 250 words.

OR

- (b) The play ends with Malcolm ascending the throne of Scotland. [10]
What changes does he announce? What does this reveal about his character?
Write your answer in 200 - 250 words.

PRISM- A COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES

Question 4

- (i) Discuss the difference in the attitudes of Martin and his sister, Cheryl towards [5]
their Grandpa in the short story, *The Medicine Bag*.
Incorporate the following details and write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words.
- Their reactions to Grandpa's arrival
 - Their responses to their friends' desire to meet Grandpa

- (ii) What role does the fire play in the short story, *There Will Come Soft Rains*? [5]
Incorporate the following details and write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words.

- Manner in which fire breaks out and spreads
- Effect of the fire

- (iii) (a) In the short story, *Indigo*, the writer gradually builds an atmosphere of thrill and suspense. Justify the statement with reference to Aniruddha Bose's travel and stay in the Dak bungalow. [10]

Answer in 200 - 250 words with close references to the text.

OR

- (b) Compare and contrast the character of Charushashi with that of Sonamani. [10]
Show how Sonamani and Charushashi present two aspects of womanhood in the short story, *Atithi*.

Answer in 200 - 250 words, by making relevant references to the story.

RHAPSODY: POETRY

Question 5

- (i) Discuss how the poet challenges the absolute power of Death in the poem, *Death Be Not Proud*. [5]

Write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words incorporating the following details.

- Popular idea of Death
- Rejection of the power of Death

- (ii) Describe the portrayal of 'small towns' in the poem, *Small Towns and the River*. [5]

Answer in 100 - 150 words incorporating the following details.

- Attachment to tradition
- Lack of change

- (iii) (a) Trace the journey of Beethoven from "Not good enough" to "The man MUST be a genius", by making relevant references to the poem, *Beethoven*. Write your answer in 200 - 250 words. [10]

OR

- (b) Comment on the relevance of the theme of the poem, *Tithonus*, in modern times. Write your answer in 200 - 250 words. [10]

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