



KARNATAKA ICSE SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

ICSE STD. X Preparatory Examination 2024

Subject: LITERATURE IN ENGLISH (ENGLISH PAPER -2)

Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allowed: Two hours

Date:18-01-2024

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 this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

*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 or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

SECTION A

*(Attempt **all** questions from this Section.)*

Question 1

[16]

Choose the correct answers to the questions from the given options.

(Do not copy the question, write the correct answers only.)

- (i) Why did Shylock value the turquoise ring?
 - (a) It was worth two thousand ducats.
 - (b) It belonged to his daughter.
 - (c) It was the wedding ring he had given his wife.
 - (d) It was a present that he had received from Leah, when he was a bachelor.

- (ii) Who, in the play, *The Merchant of Venice*, is described as "...the kindest man, the best-condition'd and unwearied spirit in doing courtesies; and one in whom the ancient Roman honour more appears than any that draws breath in Italy" ?
 - (a) Antonio
 - (b) Bassanio
 - (c) The Duke
 - (d) Bellario

- (iii) How were cowards described by Bassanio, in the casket scene?
 - (a) They assume a mark of virtue on their outward parts.
 - (b) They are the guiled shore to a most dangerous sea.
 - (c) Their hearts are all as false as stairs of sand.
 - (d) They obscure the show of evil with a gracious voice.

This question paper consists of SIX printed pages.

(iv) Who was sent to Padua by Portia?

- (a) Lorenzo
- (b) Balthazar
- (c) Bellario
- (d) Bassanio

(v) Who was referred to as Daniel at the court of justice in Venice?

- (a) Portia
- (b) The Duke
- (c) Bellario
- (d) Shylock

(vi) Who was the musician who made trees, stones and streams move from place to place by the power of his music?

- (a) Ovid
- (b) Jason
- (c) Orpheus
- (d) Pyramus

(vii) Choose the option that lists the sequence of events in the correct order in the short story- "All Summer in a Day".

1. "Ready, children?" She glanced at her watch. "Yes!" said everyone. "Are we all here?" "Yes!"
2. They walked over to the closet door slowly and stood by it. Behind the closet door was only silence. They unlocked the door, even more slowly, and let Margot out.
3. And then in the midst of their running one of the girls wailed. Everyone stopped. The girl, standing in the open, held out her hand.
4. The door slid back and the smell of the silent, waiting world came in to them. The sun came out.

- (a) 1, 2, 3, 4
- (b) 4, 1, 2, 3
- (c) 1, 4 3, 2
- (d) 3, 2, 4, 1

(viii) What was the world record set by Jesse Owens, for the running broad jump, as a sophomore at Ohio State University, a year prior to the Olympic Games in Berlin?

- (a) 26 feet
- (b) 26 feet 8 - $\frac{1}{4}$ inches
- (c) 25 feet 5- $\frac{5}{16}$ inches
- (d) 26 feet 5- $\frac{5}{16}$ inches

- (ix) Select the option that shows the correct relationship between statements (1) and (2) from the story “The Blue Bead”.
1. Noise frightens crocodiles.
 2. The big mugger did not move, and all the women crossed in safety to the other bank.
- (a) 1 is the cause for 2
 (b) 1 is an example for 2
 (c) 1 is independent of 2
 (d) 1 is a contradiction of 2
- (x) Who was the only person who had ever been good to the little match girl?
- (a) Her grandmother who was now dead.
 - (b) Her father who wanted her to sell matches.
 - (c) The rich merchant who lived in a house with glass doors.
 - (d) The boy who wanted to use her slipper as a cradle.
- (xi) Joe Thompson said to Maggie, “The soft bed feels good.” Maggie answered, “O, yes, sir- so good!” Choose the option that combines the feelings that were expressed in Maggie’s answer.
1. Satisfaction
 2. Patience
 3. Joy
 4. Gratitude
- (a) 1 and 2
 (b) 1 and 4
 (c) 2 and 3
 (d) 1 and 3
- (xii) What quality was displayed by the eight other athletes when they turned around and lifted the lad to his feet in the poem “Nine Gold Medals”?
- (a) Competitiveness
 - (b) Compassion
 - (c) Frustration
 - (d) Eagerness
- (xiii) Where did Abou Ben Adhem find that his name “led all the rest”?
- (a) A Book of Gold
 - (b) The names of those who love the Lord
 - (c) The names of those who love their fellow men
 - (d) The names of those whom love of God had blest
- (xiv) What is the theme of the song of the caged bird, in “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings”?
- (a) The sighing trees
 - (b) The orange sun rays

- (c) Freedom
(d) The distant hill
- (xv) Which of the following was NOT experienced by the poet in the poem “Daffodils”?
- (a) Happiness
(b) Thoughtfulness
(c) Pleasure
(d) Fear
- (xvi) Which of the following lines best matches the literary device in the line “*with myrtle mixed in my path like mad*” from Robert Browning’s “The Patriot”?
- (a) All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players
(b) Sing to me, Autumn, with the rustle of your leaves.
(c) Here once the embattled farmers stood and fired the shot heard round the world.
(d) The fair breeze blew, the white foam flew, and the furrow followed free.

SECTION B

(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)

DRAMA

(The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare)

Question 2

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

Bassanio: *So may the outward shows be least themselves:
The world is still deceived with ornament.*

- (i) Where is Bassanio? What made Bassanio say these lines in the extract? [3]
- (ii) Which Greek hero has Portia compared him to before this extract? Give the details of this comparison. [3]
- (iii) What, according to Bassanio, is “hard food for Midas”? Explain the classical allusion to Midas. Why does Bassanio reject the silver casket? What does he say about the quality of the lead casket that makes him choose it? [3]
- (iv) What does Bassanio find inside the lead casket? What does the scroll say? [3]
- (v) What letter does Bassanio receive about Antonio? What does Portia suggest Bassanio do immediately? What does this tell you about her nature? [4]

Question 3

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

Shylock: *Ay, his breast:
So says the bond: doth it not, noble judge?
“Nearest his heart:” those are the very words.*

Portia: *It is so. Are there balance here to weigh the flesh?*

- (i) What is the “bond” mentioned by Shylock in the extract? What penalty has Antonio been asked to pay for the forfeit of the bond? Why could Antonio not fulfil the conditions of the “bond” on time? [3]
- (ii) How did the letter from Bellario introduce Portia to the Duke of Venice in his letter? [3]
- (iii) How did Portia try to persuade Shylock to show mercy? [3]
- (iv) What answer does Portia receive to her question in the extract? What suggestions does she make to Shylock after this, for charity’s sake? What is Shylock’s response to her suggestions? [3]
- (v) How did Portia then use the very words of the bond against Shylock, to save Antonio? What impression do you form of Portia in this scene? Give examples from the scene to support your analysis. [4]

SECTION C

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

PROSE - SHORT STORIES

(Treasure Trove — A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

Question 4

Read the extract from “The Little Match Girl” by Hans Christian Andersen given below and answer the questions that follow:

So the little girl walked about the streets on her naked feet, which were red and blue with the cold. In her old apron she carried a great many matches, and she had a packet of them in her hand as well. Nobody had bought any from her, and nobody had given her a single penny all day. She crept along, shivering and hungry, the picture of misery, poor little thing!

- (i) Describe the weather when the little girl walked about the streets. What day was it? What festive scenes marked this occasion? [3]
- (ii) Why was the little girl barefoot? [3]
- (iii) What do you know about the little girl’s home? Why could she not go home? [3]
- (iv) Where did the little girl take shelter? What did she then do to try to keep warm? Describe what she saw first after that. [3]
- (v) Narrate the final vision of the little girl. What did people see in the morning? Do you think the end of the story was good? Give a reason for your opinion. [4]

Question 5

Read the extract from “The Blue Bead” by Norah Burke given below and answer the questions that follow:

There was no end to the wonders of the world.

But Sibia, in all her life from birth to death, was marked for work.

- (i) Describe the sweetmeat stall and cloth stall in the bazaar. [3]
- (ii) Describe the *other* “wonders of the world” seen by Sibia. [3]
- (iii) What work had Sibia been doing, ever since she could walk? [3]
- (iv) What was the “blue bead”? Where was it found by Sibia? What did Sibia feel when she held it in her palm? Why did she feel that way? [3]

- (v) Give an example each, from the text, to justify the following statements about Sibia. [4]
- Sibia was creative and artistic.
 - Sibia was brave and courageous.
 - Sibia was practical in nature.
 - Sibia and her family were poor.

SECTION D

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

POETRY

(Treasure Trove — A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

Question 6

Read the extract from “Abou Ben Adhem” by Leigh Hunt given below and answer the questions that follow:

Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase!)
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,

- What sight met Abou on waking up? What was the atmosphere in his room like? What other words are used in this poem for what he saw? [3]
- What did Abou say? What gave him courage to speak? What was the reply? [3]
- What did Ben Adhem say in response to the answer he had got? What answer did he get then? What was Abou’s suggestion to the answer? What does this interaction tell you about Abou’s character? [3]
- Write what happened the following night. What change do you observe about the quality of light? What does this kind of light signify? [3]
- The poet’s personal opinion is interjected into the lines of the poem twice. Mention them. What is the message that the poem conveys? [4]

Question 7

Read the extract from “The Patriot” by Robert Browning given below and answer the questions that follow.

Thus I entered, and thus I go!
In triumphs, people have dropped down dead.

- Describe the scene of the narrator’s entry. [3]
- Where is the narrator going? Why is he being taken there? What is said about the scene at the house-tops and the windows now? [3]
- Describe the physical condition of the narrator as he is being led there. How do people treat him on the way? [3]
- How long has it taken for the narrator’s fortune to change? How does the weather seem to reflect both the rise and fall of the narrator’s fortune? [3]
- How does the poem end? What is the relevance of the title of the poem? [4]
