

ICSE Class 10 Semester-2 Exam 2022

ENGLISH LITERATURE 2022

Maximum Marks: 40

Time allowed: One and a half hours

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

You will not be allowed to write during the first 10 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

Attempt all questions from Section A.

You must attempt one question from each of the Section B, C and D

The intended marks for questions or part of questions are given in brackets []

Section-A

(Attempt all questions)

Question 1.

Choose the correct answer to the questions from the given options. (Do not copy the question. Write the correct answer only.)

[20]

- (i) What did Abou Ben Adhem see in his bedroom when he awoke one night?
- (a) A fairy writing in a book of gold.
(b) An angel sitting on his bed
(c) A fairy sitting on his bed
(d) An angel writing in a book of gold.
- (ii) Which of the following lines from the poem, 'Nine Gold Medals' tells us that the poem describes an international sporting event?
- (a) The athletes had come from so many countries.
(b) And nine young athletes stood there determined.
(c) The eight other athletes stopped in their tracks.
(d) To run for the gold, for the silver and bronze.
- (iii) In the poem that Margot wrote, (in Ray Bradbury's story, 'All Summer in a Day'), she compares the sun to a.....
- (a) Penny (b) clock
(c) flower (d) lemon
- (iv) "Aw, you didn't write that!" Who said these words and to whom?
- (a) Margot to one of the boys.
(b) Margot to William
(c) The teacher to Margot
(d) One of the boys to Margot.
- (v) Jesse Owens says that Hitler had kept him (Luz Long) 'under wraps'. What does the phrase 'under wraps' mean?
- (a) Wrapped in a blanket
(b) Gift wrapped

- (c) A carefully concealed secret
- (d) Beneath a wrapper
- (vi) Which Olympic event was Jesse Owens confident of winning?
- (a) The one hundred metres race
- (b) The four hundred metres race
- (c) The high jump
- (d) The running broad jump
- (vii) The Duke refers to Shylock as a "stony adversary in the opening lines of Act 4 of "The Merchant of Venice". What does the phrase 'stony adversary' mean?
- (a) An enemy made of rock
- (b) A hard-hearted enemy
- (c) A difficult enemy
- (d) A dangerous enemy
- (viii) "My deeds upon my head! I crave the law, the penalty and forfeit of my bond." Who says these words and to whom?
- (a) Portia to Antonio
- (b) Shylock to Portia
- (c) Bassanio to Portia
- (d) Antonio to Shylock
- (ix) Why does a quarrel break out between Nerissa and Gratiano in the final Act of "The Merchant of Venice"?
- (a) Gratiano admits that he had given away the ring which Nerissa had given to him.
- (b) Nerissa admits that she had accompanied Portia to Venice disguised as a lawyer's clerk.
- (c) Gratiano is annoyed with Nerissa for giving away his ring to a stranger in Venice.
- (d) Nerissa is angry with Gratiano for leaving for Venice on the very day they were married.
- (x) How does Lorenzo recognize Portia even before he sees her when the two young women return from Venice?
- (a) by the clothes she wears.
- (b) by the sound of her voice.
- (c) by the perfume she uses.
- (d) by her touch.

Section-B

(Attempt any one question from this Section.)

DRAMA

(The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare—Acts 4 and 5)

Question 2.

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

Antonio:

Commend me to your honourable 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, Repent not you that you shall lose your friend,

And he repents not that he pays your debt;

For, if the Jew do cut but deep enough,

I'll pay it instantly with all my heart.

- (i) Who was Bassanio's 'honourable wife'? Why were the two men unaware that she was present in the room with them? [2]
- (ii) What did Antonio urge Bassanio to tell his wife? [2]
- (iii) What 'debt' was Antonio referring to the above extract? [3]
- (iv) What does Bassanio say in response to these words of Antonio's? What do their words tell us of the nature of the relationship between the two men? [3]

Question 3.

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

Lorenzo:

How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon this bank!

Here will I sit, and let the sounds of music creep in our ears:

- (i) To whom are these words addressed? What message has just been delivered to Lorenzo? [2]
- (ii) Where is this scene set? Why are Lorenzo and his companion at this place? [2]
- (iii) How does Lorenzo describe the powerful effect of music on wild animals to his companion? [3]
- (iv) Portia and Nerissa arrive on the scene shortly after this. What reason does Portia give for their absence from home? What does she instruct Nerissa to do immediately after their arrival?

Section-C

(Attempt any one question from this Section.)

PROSE - SHORT STORIES

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

Question 4.

Read the extract from Ray Bradbury's short story, 'All Summer in a Day' given below and answer the questions that follow:

The girl standing in the open, held out her hand

"Oh look, look," she said, trembling

They came slowly to look at her opened palm. In the center of it, cupped and huge, was a single raindrop, she began to cry.

looking at it. They glanced quietly at the sun. "Oh, Oh"

- (i) How old were 'they'? What had they been doing until the girl called their attention to the raindrop? [2]
- (ii) Why does the girl begin to cry when she looks at the raindrop? [2]
- (iii) Describe the dramatic change in the weather immediately after the raindrop fell. [3]
- (iv) What feeling do 'they' experience at the end of the story? What had they done earlier that made them feel this way? [3]

Question 5.

Read the extract from 'My Greatest Olympic Prize' by Jesse Owens given below and answer the questions that follow:

Suddenly all the tension seemed to ebb out of my body as the truth of what he said hit me. Confidently, I drew a line a full foot in back of the board and proceeded to jump from there. I qualified with almost a foot to spare.

- (i) What was the 'truth' that Luz Long had just pointed out to Owens? [2]
- (ii) Earlier in the narrative Owens admits to feeling angry. What had caused him to feel this way? [2]
- (iii) How did the two athletes spend their time together that night? [3]
- (iv) What action of Luz Long's at the finals proved that he was a true sportsman? What made his behaviour remarkable? [3]

Section-D

(Attempt any one question from this Section.)

POETRY

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

Question 6.

Read the following extract from the poem 'Abou Ben Adhem' by Leigh Hunt and answer the questions that follow :

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

- (i) What does the poet mean by the words, 'may his tribe increase!'? [2]
- (ii) Mention any two words which the poet uses in this poem that are no longer in common use. [2]
- (iii) Three different name lists are mentioned in the poem. The Angel speaks of two and Abou Ben Adhem mentions the third. What are they? [3]
- (iv) What important lesson did Abou Ben Adhem learn his second encounter with the Angel? What message does the poet convey to us through this?

Question 7.

Read the extract from David Roth's Poem, 'Nice Gold Medals' given below and answer the questions that follow :

That's how the race ended, with nine gold medals

They came to the finish line holding hands still

And the banner above and nine smiling faces

Said more than these words ever will.

Said more than these words ever will.

- (i) How exactly did the race end? [2]
- (ii) Who were 'they'? How do we know that they had put in a great deal of effort to qualify for the games? [2]
- (iii) Why were they holding hands and smiling when they reached the finish line? [3]
- (iv) What did the banner over them say? Why does the poet consider these words an appropriate description of this particular event? [3]