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No. of Questions — 8

No. of Printed Pages — 7

SS—20-1—Eng. Lit. I**SENIOR SECONDARY EXAMINATION, 2011**

Optional Group I — HUMANITIES

ENGLISH LITERATURE — First PaperTime : $3 \frac{1}{4}$ Hours

Maximum Marks : 60

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE EXAMINEES :

1. Candidate must write first his / her Roll No. on the question paper compulsorily.
2. All the questions are compulsory.
3. Write the answer to each question in the given answer-book only.
4. For questions having more than one part carrying similar marks, the answers of those parts are to be written together in continuity.

1. Explain any *four* of the following extracts with reference to the context, choosing at least *two* from each group i.e. Poetry and Drama :

4 × 3 = 12

(POETRY)

- (i) Blind unbelief is sure to err,

And scan his work in vain;

God is his own interpreter,

And he will make it plain.

- (ii) Thrice welcome, darling of the Spring !

Even yet thou art to me

No bird, but an invisible thing,

A voice, a mystery ;

- (iii) They melt into the leaves and, while they scan

The glade below, their comrade starts to play.

(DRAMA)

- (iv) 'Why, how is it that you've just beaten us ?

Sheer ignorance of the art of war, nothing else.

(Indignantly) I never saw anything so unprofessional.'

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- (v) I feel safe at last. And now, would you mind breaking the news to your mother ? I had better not stay here secretly longer than is necessary.
- (vi) I could have sworn it wasn't there. Age is beginning to tell on me. I am getting hallucinations.

(POETRY)

2. Answer any *two* of the following questions in one sentence each :

$$2 \times 1 = 2$$

- (i) 'Signifying nothing.'

(*Life Is But A Walking Shadow*)

How does life signify nothing ?

- (ii) 'Into that heaven of freedom, my Father,
let my country awake.'

(*Where The Mind Is Without Fear*)

Give one reason for this wish.

- (iii) 'Then she turns to those liars, the candles
or the moon'.

(*Mirror*)

Why are 'the candles or the moon' called liars ?

(DRAMA)

3. Answer any *two* of the following questions in one sentence each :

$$2 \times 1 = 2$$

- (i) *Raina* : 'Have you ever seen the opera of Ernani ?'

Why does the heroine ask such a question ?

- (ii) *Nicola* : 'Yes : that's the secret of success in service.'

What is that secret ?

- (iii) *Petkoff* : 'I bet you any piece of jewellery ...'

What is the condition of bet ?

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions in about 30 words each :

$$4 \times 2\frac{1}{2} = 10$$

- (i) *Catherine* : Of course : he sends me the news.

Sergius is the hero of the hour, the idol of the regiment.

For what reasons has Sergius been raised to this high pedestal ?

- (ii) *Raina* (Touched) : That is very nice of you. I see that you are

a gentleman.

What is the occasion ?

- (iii) *Sergius* : 'Madam : it was the cradle and the grave of my military

reputation.'

What does Sergius want to explain here ?

- (iv) *Louka* : Ha ! ha ! I expect one of the six of you is very like me, sir;
though I am only Miss Raina's maid.

How does Louka hurt Sergius with this statement ?

- (v) *Nicola* : Indeed ! if the mistress catches you,
she'll talk to you.

Why are Nicola and Louka in a conflict ?

- (vi) *Sergius* : You may now call me a coward as well I refuse to fight
you.

Why does he (Sergius) refuse to fight ?

5. Answer any *four* of the following questions in about 30 words each :

$$4 \times 2\frac{1}{2} = 10$$

- (i) Why has the poet's request to God been considered foolish ?

(*On His Blindness*)

- (ii) Why are the God's ways considered mysterious ?

(*Light Shining Out of Darkness*)

- (iii) What are the similarities between winter and old-age ?

(*The Human Seasons*)

- (iv) What does the poet mean by 'the birthday of my life' ?

(*A Birthday*)

- (v) 'When tireless striving stretches its arms ...'

Explain 'tireless striving'.

(*Where The Mind Is Without Fear*)

- (vi) '...three in a row, twisting time ...'

What does 'three in a row' denote ?

(*Braided Lives*)

6. Answer any *two* of the following questions in about 60 — 80 words

each :

$2 \times 5 = 10$

- (i) Contrast between Sergius and Bluntschli.
- (ii) How does Shaw prove that wars are futile ?
- (iii) 'Raina is the real heroine of the drama.' Write your answer in support of this statement.
- (iv) Bring out the importance of 'coat-incident' in this drama.

7. Answer any *two* of the following questions in about 60 — 80 words

each :

$2 \times 5 = 10$

- (i) Write a short critical appreciation of 'Life is But A Walking Shadow'.
- (ii) What message does 'To the Cuckoo' give ?

- (iii) Give the central idea of 'Where The Mind Is Without Fear'.
- (iv) 'Mirror' is a poem of realistic approach. Explain with three examples.
8. Define any *two* of the following literary terms : $2 \times 2 = 4$
- (i) Character
- (ii) Irony
- (iii) Lyric
- (iv) Plot.
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