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First Term Test - Grade 11 - 2020

Name/Index No : Appreciation of English Literary Texts Time: 3 Hours

Note :-

- Answer question one and four others selecting one from each section, POETRY, DRAMA, PROSE and FICTION.

Part - I

1 - Section A

Answer all questions.

Read the following extracts and answer the questions given below each extract.

- (1) **'I have also learned to say 'Good bye'
When I mean 'Good riddance!'**
 - (a) Name the work in which these lines appear. Name the writer.
 - (b) Who speaks these lines? What is the tone of the speaker?
 - (c) How would you comment on the qualities of the speaker? (05 marks)

- (2) **'And Richard Cory, one calm summer night
Went home and put a bullet through his head'**
 - (a) Name the work in which these lines appear. Name the writer.
 - (b) What is the effect created by these lines?
 - (c) What messages are given through this action of Richard Cory? (05 marks)

- (3) **'She will dance so lightly that her feet will not touch the floor, and the courtiers in their grey dresses will throng round her. But with me she will not dance, for I have no red rose to give her'**
 - (a) Name the work in which these lines appear? Name the writer.
 - (b) What is the context?
 - (c) What kind of relationship is there between the speaker and 'she'? (05 marks)

- (4) **'We all realized that what some of our fellow Sri Lankans experienced every day for nearly 30 years'**
 - (a) Name the work in which these lines appear. Name the speaker.
 - (b) Who are referred to as 'we'? What helped them to come to this realization?
 - (c) What qualities of 'we' are shown here? (05 marks)

- (5) **'Stop worrying about the supper. You have got to come. Let's play together.'**
 - (a) Name the work in which these lines appear. Name the writer.
 - (b) Who is the speaker? To whom are these lines spoken?
 - (c) What is the relationship between these two? What qualities of the speaker are depicted here? (05 marks)

- (6) **'I had a violent row with Kuritsin and nearly threw him out of the window, Mazugo has something the matter with his bowels, and this woman has 'a state of mind'.**
 - (a) Name the work in which these lines appear. Name the writer.
 - (b) Who is the speaker? Where is he?
 - (c) What are the feeling of the speaker? (05 marks)

Section B

Answer questions in either A, B or C.

(a) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below it.

Gradually his reading of the Bhagawad Gita was replaced by the blue air mail letters. From their study he formed a picture of America and was able to speak with authority on the subject of American landscape, culture and civilization. He hardly noticed to whom he spoke; anyone on the road seemed good enough. His acquaintances feared that he was afflicted with the Talking Disease.

- (i) Who is referred to as 'he'? What is the situation? (02 marks)
- (ii) How could he talk about America with many details? (02 marks)
- (iii) Write the meaning of the following in your own words.
 - (a) speak with authority
 - (b) acquaintances (02 marks)
- (iv) Describe 'his' character as reflected in the above extract. (04 marks)

Or

(b) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below it.

By the vague light of a tallow candle which was thrust into a bottle, he made out the main features of the loathsome den, and also occupants of it. Two frowzy girls and a middle aged woman cowered against the wall in one corner, with the aspect of animals habituated to harsh usage and expecting and dreading it now. From another corner stole a withered hag with streaming grey hair and malignant eyes.

- (i) Who is referred to as 'he'? What is the situation? (02 marks)
- (ii) What kind of life is spent by the people here? (02 marks)
- (iii) Write the meaning of the following in your own words.
 - (a) loathsome den
 - (b) withered hag (02 marks)
- (iv) What themes of the novel are reflected in the above extract? (04 marks)

Or

(c) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below it.

Putting down the things in my hands was in slow motion, because the hands had gone stiff under the weight and took time to move. The gunny bag stiff and bulging with the provisions stood upright on the ground and the mirror was placed on its face against the bag and Tony released for a moment of my waist first sat on his hind legs and then stretched himself full length from paw to tail-end panting and drooling at the mouth but looking quite pleased with himself.

- (i) Where is the speaker? What is the situation? (02 marks)
- (ii) Why had his hands gone stiff? (02 marks)
- (iii) Write the meaning of the following in your own words.
 - (a) bulging
 - (b) pleased (02 marks)
- (iv) Comment on the qualities of the speaker as shown in the above extract. (04 marks)

Part - II

POETRY

(Answer one question only)

- (2) 'The poem, **A Bird Came Down the Walk** reveals how a simple action of bird watching leads the observer to gain a mature experience of nature.' Do you agree?
- (3) 'War creates no victory, but loss and misery.' Support this statement paying a close reference to the poem, **War is Kind**.
- (4) Examine how the poet brings out social injustices in the poem **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings**.
- (5) 'The Clown's wife warns us not to judge people by looking at their frontal decorative figures.' Justify this statement taking examples from the poem, **The Clown's Wife**.
- (6) What makes **The Camel's Hump** a humourous poem? Support your answer with examples from the poem.

DRAMA

(Answer one question only)

- (7) Do you agree to say that in the play, **The Bear**, both Popova's and Smirnov's adamant and chauvinistic qualities contribute to humour?
- (8) Comment on the character of Tsu in the play, **Twilight of a Crane**. How does her character differ from the other characters?

PROSE

(Answer one question only)

- (9) 'In the short story, **The Nightingale and the Rose**, Wilde criticizes his society as a place which lacks humanity.' Discuss.
- (10) What qualities of Nicholas make him smarter than his aunt? Support your answer with examples from the short story, **The Lumber Room**.
- (11) Analyze how the Sri Lankan cricket team responds to the terrorist attack in the extract **The Lahore Attack**. What morals are conveyed through their responses?
- (12) '**Wave** creates a vivid picture of human helplessness in front of nature' comment.

FICTION

(Answer one question only)

- (13) 'Mali's character in the novel, **The Vendor of Sweets** depicts an unguided youth who missed the parental love and support.' Discuss.
- (14) 'True leaders never change their good values under any circumstance.' How true is this statement according to the behavior of Edward Tudor and Tom Canty in the novel, **The Prince and the Pauper**?
- (15) Comment on the challenges faced by the speaker during his childhood in the novel, **Bringing Tony Home**. What themes are discussed through them?



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First Term Test - Grade 11 - 2020

Appreciation of English Literary Texts - Answer Key

Part - I

Section A

- (1) (a) Once Upon a time by Gabriel Okara
(b) father/ and elderly person/ tone - guilty/ disappointment/ helplessness
(c) Wise and mature as he understands his fault. Honest to confess and ready to change/ helpless in front of the social forces.
- (2) (a) Richard Cory by Edwin Arlington Robinson.
(b) Irony.
(c) Importance of spiritual fulfilment more than materialistic gains/ difference between appearance and reality/ false judgments/ beliefs of society
- (3) (a) The Nightingale and Rose by Oscar Wilde
(b) The Young Students is weeping in the garden as he does not have a rose to give to the Professor's daughter. He is imagining what will happen if he goes to the dance without a red rose.
(c) Superficial relationship. The Professor's daughter has a cunning/ selfish/ conditional relationship while the young students is infatuated over her appearance and social status.
- (4) (a) Lahore Attack by Kumar Sangakkara
(b) We - the members of Sri Lankan cricket team/ The terrorist attack they faced in Lahore.
(c) maturity/ empathy/ sensitivity/ humanity
- (5) (a) Twilight of a Crane by Yu Zuwa Junji Kinoshita
(b) Yohyo to Tsu
(c) Husband and wife relationship/ caring husband/ affectionate/ respects his wife/ does not maintain any hierarchy
- (6) (a) The Bear by Anton Chekhov
(b) Smirnov/ in Popova's house/ drawing room
(c) Angry/ disappointed/ frustrated

Section B

- (a) (i) He - Jagan / How he enjoys reading letters from Mali about America
(ii) By reading Mali's letters and then forming a picture of America.
(iii) (a) speak with authority - Speak with mastery of knowledge/ dominance/ supremacy
(b) acquaintances - associates/ known people
- (iv) Boastfulness/ taking advantages of the given situation/ love for his son.
- (b) (i) Edward Tudor/ He has gone to the dwelling of Tom Canty/ Offal court
(ii) Abject poverty/ miserable life with poverty/ alcoholism/ ignorance
(iii) (a) loathsome den - sickening/ disgusting /despicable lodge/ burrow
(b) withered hag - old/ shrunken woman
- (iv) Huge disparity between the rich and the poor/ Suffering of the lower class
- (c) (i) On his way back with Tony. He has stopped in front of a house as he is thirsty.
(ii) Because he was carrying a heavy bag and a mirror
(iii) (a) bulging - swelling outwards: protruding
(b) pleased - delighted/ gratified
- (iv) Endurance/ loyal and faithful to his friend-Tony/ will power/ adventurous

Part - II

POETRY

- (2) The action of bird watching exposes the person to different aspects of nature. Self-sufficiency/ integrity/ independence/ selectivity/ tolerance/ beauty/ delicacy/ message that human interference is not needed.
- (3) Paradoxical title invites the reader to think again. Juxtaposition of appearance and reality of war should be analyzed with textual support.

- (4) The poet uses extended metaphors of the free bird and the caged bird to contrast social disparity. Students are expected to analyze the techniques used in the poem that help to bring out the themes.
- (5) The wife's revelation contrasts the appearance of the clown with his reality. This suggests the dual personality of many in society.
- (6) Laziness is laughed at using techniques like absurdity, exaggeration, irony, elongated vowels, warning tone and racy rhythm.

DRAMA

- (7) Both characters are proud/ adamant/ chauvinistic/ quick tempered and inconsistent. Their attitudes/ behavior/ dialogues create humour through absurdity, exaggeration and irony.
- (8) Tsu represents ideal/ natural world shows immature, naive, pure and genuine qualities full of humanity. Shows true love and ready to sacrifice. These qualities should be contrasted with the corrupted, greedy, and malicious qualities of human characters.

PROSE

- (9) Human characters lack humanity and true love while natural world possesses them. Students should contrast the two human characters with the nightingale.
- (10) Nicholas is smarter and more observant and imaginative than the aunt. He is a witty planner and farsighted that he punishes the aunt in return.
- (11) They overcame their fear and anger and felt relieved and joyful. They behaved as 'unofficial ambassadors' taking all the responsibilities as a team. They were not coward and behaved bravely and intelligently. This shows their team spirit, patriotism and sportsmanship.
- (12) Power and terror created by nature and helpless behavior of people should be analyzed with textual support.

FICTION

- (13) Death of Ambika at Mali's young age and Jagan's irresponsible behaviour fail to guide Mali in many instances of life. Jagan does not guide or advise him when needed.
- (14) How Edward Tudor and Tom Canty remain truthful and honest despite of all the hardships should be discussed. This leads them to their ultimate happiness.
- (15) Loneliness/ separation from his pet/ distance from parental love/ missing school and economic crisis.