

## **Appreciation of English Literary Texts**

**Grade 11**

Model paper

Prepared by the English Unit – Ministry of Education

Answer **five** questions only.

Answer question **(1)** and **four** others, selecting **one** from each section; POETRY, DRAMA, PROSE and FICTION.

### **Part – 1**

#### **1) Section A - Answer all questions.**

Read the following extracts and answer the questions given below them.

i) "Thy bright torch of love, thy radiant crown;

Put on, and smile upon our evening bed!"

a) From where are these lines taken? Who wrote them?

b) What does he address as "thy"? On whom may her "smile" be upon?

c) What impression does it convey by using the phrase "Thy bright torch of love; thy radiant crown"? (05 marks)

ii) "My past unshapely natural state was best

With just one flower flaming through my breast".

a) From where are these lines taken? Who wrote them?

b) Who is referred to as "my" here? What is the speaker's mentality at this moment?

c) What is the attitude of the speaker towards the present state? (05 marks)

iii) "It will be a glorious afternoon for racing about over those beautiful sands. How they will enjoy themselves! "

a) In which work do these lines appear? Who is the author?

b) Who are referred as "they" in this extract and who is the speaker?

c) What are speaker's feelings towards the person she/he speaks to? (05 marks)

iv) "I didn't shout to warn them. I didn't bang on their door and call them out. As I ran past, for a splintered second, I wondered if I should."

- a) Name the work from which these lines are taken. Who wrote them?
- b) Who are referred to as “I” and “them”?
- c) How would you describe the situation? What is suggested of “I” here?

(05 marks)

v) “Yes, I dislike you. I don’t like you. I’m not fond of you- you are a cross woman!”

- a) From where are these lines taken? Who wrote them?
- b) Whose words are these? To whom are these words said?
- c) What prompted the speaker to utter these words? What idea is highlighted by this utterance?

(05 marks)

vi) “Where are you going? Stop... No, go away. Oh how angry I am! Don’t come near me...!”

- a) Name the work from which these lines are taken. Who is the writer?
- b) Who is the speaker? To whom are these words spoken?
- c) What theme of the text does this extract relate to?

(05 marks)

### **Section B-** Answer questions in **either** (a), (b) **or** (c).

#### **Either**

- a) Read the following extract and answer the given questions.

“Alack, my poor master!” ejaculated the whipping- boy, with feeling; adding, to himself,” “In truth ‘tis as they said- his mind is gone- alas, poor soul! But misfortune catches me, how am I forgetting! they said one must not seem to observe that aught is wrong with him.”

“‘Tis strange how memory doth wanton with me these days,’ said Tom. But mind it not- I mend apace – a little clue doth often serve to bring me back again the things and names which had escaped me. Give thy business speech.”

“ ‘Tis matter of small weight, my liege, yet will I touch upon it, an it please your grace. Two days gone by, when your majesty faulted thrice in your Greek – in the morning lessons- dost remember it?”

“Ye-e-s methinks I do. (It is not much of a lie- an I had meddled with the Greek at all, I had not faulted simply thrice, but forty times.) Yes, I do recall it now – go on.”

“The master, being worth with what he termed such slovenly and doltish work, did promise that he would soundly whip me for it – and -”

- i) What is the incident described in this extract? Who is talking with Tom? (02 marks)
- ii) What incident happened two days ago is being mentioned here? (02 marks)

iii) Explain the following phrases in your own words.

a) doltish work -

b) soundly whip -

(02 marks)

iv) What aspect of royalty is brought forth here? For what purpose does Tom plan to get help of the other person in the conversation?

(04 marks)

**Or**

b) Read the following extract and answer the given questions.

“I walked alone for no other children from Egodawatta went to school that way; Sisisena went across the paddy field to Maharagama ; Munidasa too went through the paddy field but he went the other way towards Borelesgamuwa and he left earlier because his school was at Dehiwala and he was accompanied by his father who worked at the Railway Workshop at Rathmalana; Theliya had gone away to his Uncle’s place at Grandpass and were told he was attending a Colombo School and was working at his big brother’s garage at Puttalam, Ranal Yahampath , Club Garage, Colombo Road ,Puttalam was the address he gave me just before he left an year ago in 1950, which time Ranal and I had become good friends and he considered me his best friend because unlike the others I didn’t tease him for not having a father and he would take me home and his mother liked me and always gave me sweets and said I looked like a respectable kid and the other boys in the gang told me their parents had asked them not to go to that house because Ranal’s mother was a bad woman who was friendly with the white soldiers in the RAF Camp.”

i) What is the situation given in the passage? Where does it take place? (02 marks)

ii) Why did Ranal consider the speaker as his best friend?

(02marks)

iii) Explain the meanings of the following words.

a) accompanied -

b) respectable kid-

(02 marks)

iv) What does this passage reveal about the speaker?

(04 marks)

**Or**

**c)** Read the following extract and answer the given questions.

“That is what I am seeking but never attain! Jagan wailed and quietened his thoughts for a moment. Suddenly he remembered that he had been fooled by the young people and that the house which had remained unsullied for generations had this new taint to carry. How could he live in the same house with them? He was on the point of saying, “I have half a mind to tell them to go where they please and do what they like, but not in my house...” But he checked himself; it was a statement that his tongue refused to phrase. Certain things acquired an evil complexion if phrased, but remained harmless in the mind. “How do you expect me to go on living there?”

i) What is the situation described in the passage? With whom does Jagan share his views?

(02 marks)

ii) According to the underlined statement, what made Jagan feel like this?

(02 marks)

iii) Write the meaning of the following words/phrases in your own words.

a) unsullied for generation -

b) attain -

(02 marks)

iv) What theme of the novel is reflected through this dialogue?

(04 marks)

## **Part – 11**

### **Poetry**

(Answer **one** question only.)

**2)** “Alfred Lord Tennyson tries to showcase the power of nature by using some literary devices in an effective manner”. Do you agree? Support your view with reference to the poem, **The Eagle**.

**3)** “People cannot be themselves if they want to keep up with the modern society”. Is this what Gabriel Okara wants to bring out in his poem, **Once Upon a Time**?

- 4) "In the poem **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings**, Maya Angelou makes us feel sympathetic towards the caged bird by portraying the difficulties that are faced by it." Discuss.
- 5) "In the poem, **Farewell to Barn and Stack and Tree** by A.E Housman, the narrator feels unworthy and guilty after his impulsive action." How does the poet bring out this idea?
- 6) "According to the poem **Two's Company**, we, the human beings make our own ghosts dramatically out of the psychological changes take place on us." Substantiate this statement with examples.

*(15 marks)*

### **Drama**

(Answer **one** question only.)

- 7) Do you think that Popova's sudden transformation at the end of the play is reasonable? Justify your answer with examples.
- 8) "Yohyo is responsible for ruining the loving relationship between Tsu and himself." Do you agree with this statement? Comment with examples.

*(15 marks)*

### **Prose**

(Answer **one** question only.)

- 9) Examine this statement. "The battle of wit between Nicholas and his aunt will never be won by her as he is very intelligent in turning everything to suit his needs" by referring to the text **The Lumber Room** by Saki.
- 10) Examine the statement – "**The Nightingale and the Rose** is a text which makes students aware of the different kinds of love prevailing in the society."
- 11) **The Lahore Attack** by Kumar Sangakkara brings out an idea that 'We should not be discouraged by the danger and difficulties that we face in our lives.' Support your view by referring the text.
- 12) "We, the readers become horror- stricken by the way Sonali Deraniyagala presented her personal experience in the prose, **Wave**. Discuss.

*(15 marks)*

### **Fiction**

(Answer **one** question only.)

- 13)** “Even though Tom craved to be a prince, his experience in the palace made him want to be himself.” Support this idea with reference to the novel, **The Prince and the Pauper**.
- 14)** Do you think Mali himself is the only reason for his own plight in **The Vendor of Sweets**. Discuss.
- 15)** “Children are more sensitive and loving towards animals than adults.” Do you agree with this statement? Justify your answer with examples from the relevant text.  
(15 marks)