

BARNES SCHOOL AND JUNIOR COLLEGE, DEVLALI
HALF- YEARLY EXAMINATION 2011-2012

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH (PAPER II)

Time: 2 Hrs

CLASS 10

Max Marks: 80

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.

*Attempt **five** questions in all you must attempt **one** from each of the sections **A, B and C** and any **two** other questions.*

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets ().

SECTION A – DRAMA
As You Like It: Shakespeare

Question 1 Read the passage below and answer the following questions:

I will not, till I please: you shall hear me. my father charged you in his will to give me good education: you have trained me like a peasant, obscuring and hiding from me all gentleman-like qualities. The spirit of my father grows strong in me, and I will no longer endure it: therefore allow me such exercises as may become a gentleman, or give me the poor allottery my father left me by testament;

- a) Name the speaker and explain the context. (3)
- b) What does the speaker want to emphasize when he says, “I will not, till I please”? (3)
- c) What is provided in the will referred to by the speaker? (3)
- d) What is it that the speaker will no longer endure? (3)
- e) What are the two alternatives suggested by the speaker to the listener? (4)

Question 2 Read the passage below and answer the following questions:

The eldest of the three wrestled with Charles, the Duke’s wrestler: which Charles in a moment threw him and broke his ribs, that there is little hope of life in him: so he served the second, and so the third. Yonder they lie: the poor old man, their father, making such pitiful dole over them that all the beholders take his part in weeping.

- a) Identify the speaker while explaining the context. (3)
- b) Who is referred to as the eldest of the three? (3)
- c) What happened to this person? (3)
- d) What was the fate of the other two? (3)
- e) What was the impact of the incident (4)
 - On their father and
 - On the spectators?

SECTION B – POETRY

The Golden Lyre

Question 3 Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:

*A man's destination is his own village,
His own fire and his wife's cooking;
To sit in front of his own door at sunset
And see his grandson and his neighbour's grandson
Playing in the dust together.*

- Name the poem from which these lines are taken. Also name the poet. (3)
What does the poet mean by 'destination'? Which is a man's destination? (3)
What does he expect to find at his destination? (3)
Why does the poet choose the time of sunset when man would sit in a relaxed mood? (3)
What does he see in front of his door? How old will that man be then? (4)

Question 4 Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:

*Where is that glory, where that reverence now?
Thy eagle pinion is chained down at last,
And groveling in the lowly dust art thou:*

- Name the poet. To whose "glory" and "reverence" is he referring here? (3)
Bring out the main idea of the whole poem. (3)
Explain: "Thy eagle pinion is chained down at last." (3)
What idea do you form about the character and outlook on life of the poet from the poem? (3)
Which "glory" is the poet referring to here? (4)

SECTION C – PROSE

A Treasure Trove of Short Stories

Question 5 Read the passage below and answer the following questions:

"The sniper lay still for a long time, nursing his wounded arm and planning escape. Morning must not find him wounded on the roof. The enemy on the opposite roof had made escape impossible. He must kill that enemy but he could not use his rifle. He had only a revolver to do it. Then he thought of a plan."

- a) Why should the sniper be not found on the roof in the morning? Why couldn't he use his rifle? (3)
b) What was the trick he played on the other sniper who was hiding on the opposite building? (3)
c) How successful was his plan? What happened to the enemy sniper? (3)
d) How did the sniper first feel when he saw his enemy hit? When then did he feel sick after this? (3)
e) Who had the sniper actually shot? What is your opinion of the ending of the story? Do you think that violence is ever justified? (4)

Question 6

Bring about the theme of the story 'Marriage is a Private Affair'. What is its relevance in the present context of the world as a global village? (16)