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

TIME: Three hours

CLASS 12

MAX MARKS: 100

Answer one question from Section A and four questions from Section B. In Section B choose questions on ALL three textbooks.

If you answer two questions on anyone text, do not base them on the same material.

Note: The intended marks for questions are given in brackets .

SECTION A

Macbeth - Shakespeare

Question 1

[20]

Choose two of the passages (a) to (c) and answer briefly the questions that follow:

- (a) Malcolm : *(aside to Donalbain)*
Why do we hold our tongues, that most may claim
This argument for ours?
- Donalbain : *(aside to Malcolm)*
What should be spoken here,
Where our fate hid in an auger-hole may rush,
And seize us? Let's away. Our tears are not yet brew'd.
- Malcolm : *(Aside to Donalbain)*
Nor our strong sorrow upon the foot of motion.

(i) Where are Malcolm and Donalbain?

(ii) What 'argument' does Malcolm seek to claim as theirs?

(iii) Explain the line:

"Nor our strong sorrow upon the foot of motion".

(iv) Who speaks immediately after the quoted lines? What does the character say?

(v) Give the meanings of the following words in the context of the passage:

auger-hole; brew'd.

- (b) Lady Macbeth : You must leave this
Macbeth : Oh, full of scorpions is my mind, dear wife!
Thou know'st that Banquo and his Fleance lives.
- Lady Macbeth : But in them Nature's copy's not eterne.
Macbeth : There's comfort yet, they are assailable;
Then be thou jocund: ere the bat hath flown
His cloister'd flight, ere to black Hecate's summons
The shard-born beetle with his drowsy hums
Hath rung night's yawning peal, there shall be done
A deed of dreadful note.

- (i) What makes Lady Macbeth say, "You must leave this"?
- (ii) In an earlier scene, what reasons had Macbeth given for fearing Banquo?
- (iii) Explain the line:
"There's comfort yet, they are assailable".
- (iv) What does Macbeth refer to as "A deed of dreadful note"? Which arrangements had he already made for this deed?
- (v) Give the meanings of the following words in the context of the passage:
jocund; cloister'd.

(c)

Macbeth: Saw you the weird sisters?
 Lennox: No, my lord.
 Macbeth: Came they not by you?
 Lennox: No indeed, my lord.
 Macbeth: Infected be the air whereon they ride,
 And damn'd all those that trust them! I did hear
 The galloping of horse. Who was't came by?

- (i) Where are Macbeth and Lennox?
- (ii) What had Macbeth been doing before this extract?
- (iii) Explain the lines:
"Infected be the air whereon they ride;
And damn'd all those that trust them!"
- (iv) What is Lennox's reply to Macbeth's question?
- (v) Give the meaning of the following words in the context of the passage:
Infected; whereon.

SECTION B

(Answer four questions the three textbooks you have studied)

Macbeth - Shakespeare

Question 2 [20]

How does Shakespeare develop the theme of guilt and remorse in the play? Discuss with specific reference to the text.

Question 3 [20]

What is the significance of the 'porter scene' in the play? Discuss at least three things that are achieved by the dramatist through the introductory lines of the scene.

Footprints (A Collection of Essays) - Edited by Stephen DaCosta

Question 4 [20]

"Please and Thank You are the small change with which we pave our way as social beings."
Referring closely to the essay, *On Saying "Please"*, relate the writer's views on the importance of good manners.

Question 5 [20]

Referring closely to the essay *My Struggle For An Education*, relate the difficulties that the writer had to overcome before he could get admission into a Hampton Institute.

Question 6 [20]

What advice does Nehru give to his daughter from Naini jail?

**Hues: An Anthology of Short Stories - Barry Antunis, Anupam Banerjee, S.
Thomas & Sumana Saha**

Question 7 [20]

Referring closely to the short story *A Devoted Son*, trace the change in Vermaji's perception of his son Rakesh from 'a pearl among pearls' to 'a cold and heartless tyrant'. With whom do you sympathise in the story and why?

Question 8 [20]

With close reference to the story, bring out the relevance of the title 'Castaway'.

Question 9 [20]

The short story *Third Thought*, traces the! manner in which our better instincts are gradually suppressed by our self-centred motives.
Referring closely to the short story, trace the narrator's progression from generosity to selfishness.