

ENGLISH
PAPER 2
(LITERATURE IN ENGLISH)
(Prescribed Textbooks)

M2111904

Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allotted: Three Hours

Reading Time: Additional Fifteen Minutes

Instructions to Candidates

1. You are allowed an **additional fifteen minutes** for **only** reading the question paper.
2. You must **NOT** start writing during reading time.
3. This question paper has **7 printed pages and one blank page**.
4. It has **five questions** in all.
5. Answer **all** questions.
6. While answering **Question 1 in Section A**, you are required to **write only ONE option as the correct answer**.
7. **Internal choice** has been given in the **long answer question** on Drama, Prose and Poetry.
8. **Do not exceed the prescribed word limit** while answering the questions in Section B.
9. The intended marks for questions are given in brackets [].

Instruction to Supervising Examiner

1. Kindly read **aloud** the Instructions given on page 1 to all the candidates present in the examination hall.

SECTION A– 20 MARKS

Question 1

[10]

Choose the correct options for the following questions.

- (i) How does Ross describe Macduff to Lady Macduff in Act IV Scene ii of the play, *Macbeth*?
- (a) Noble, wise and judicious
 - (b) Dishonest, cowardly and foolish
 - (c) Ambitious, cruel and secretive
 - (d) Loyal, brave and trustworthy
- (ii) In his soliloquy in Act III Scene i of the play, *Macbeth*, which one of the following does Macbeth refer to as a reason for fearing Banquo?
- (P) Banquo is close to Lady Macbeth.
 - (Q) Banquo is royal in nature.
 - (R) Banquo's descendants will become kings.
 - (S) Banquo is a poor advisor.
- (a) Only (P) and (Q)
 - (b) Only (Q) and (R)
 - (c) Only (R) and (S)
 - (d) Only (P) and (S)
- (iii) "Nought's had, all's spent,
Where our desire is got without content;"
What does this quote by Lady Macbeth in Act III Scene ii of the play, *Macbeth*, reveal about her mental state?
- (a) She feels Duncan's murder was worth the effort.
 - (b) She is greedy for power.
 - (c) She is afraid of spending money.
 - (d) She realises the futility of power.
- (iv) In Act V Scene v of the play, *Macbeth*, what is Macbeth's first reaction when the messenger informs him that "the wood began to move"?
- (a) He disbelieves the messenger and calls him a "liar."
 - (b) He wants to see the sight for himself.
 - (c) He sends a message to his General.
 - (d) He loses all hopes.

- (v) Why did Charushashi smash Tarapada's flute in the short story, *Atithi*?
- (a) Sonamani had gifted the flute to Tarapada.
 - (b) She felt the sound of the flute was not sweet.
 - (c) She wanted to give Tarapada another flute.
 - (d) She was overcome with jealousy and anger.
- (vi) What does the ever-ticking clock in the short story, *There Will Come Soft Rains*, symbolise?
- (a) Mankind has been destroyed.
 - (b) Punctuality is important.
 - (c) Time is all powerful and ever present.
 - (d) Humans can win over time.
- (vii) Read the following two statements from the short story, *The Medicine Bag*, and choose the correct option from the ones given below.
- Statement I:** "Tomorrow," he said, "when you come home, it will be time to give you the medicine bag."
- Statement II:** I felt a hard squeeze from where my heart is supposed to be and was scared, but I answered, "OK, Grandpa."
- (a) Statements I and II are similar.
 - (b) Statements I and II are not related to each other.
 - (c) Statement II is the reason for Statement I.
 - (d) Statement I is the reason for Statement II.
- (viii) Which one of the following **BEST** describes Beethoven's father's attitude to him in the poem, *Beethoven*?
- (a) He was overbearing.
 - (b) He was rude.
 - (c) He drove Beethoven to perfection.
 - (d) He wanted him to be successful.
- (ix) In the poem, *Small Towns and the River*, what is the river compared to?
- (a) A waterfall
 - (b) The sky full of stars
 - (c) A torrent of grief
 - (d) A meadow of flowers

- (x) In the poem, *Tithonus*, what does Tennyson illustrate through the image of 'the woods decay and fall....Man comes and tills the field and lies beneath, '?
- (a) Nature's bias against humans
 - (b) The natural cycle of life and death
 - (c) The concept of immortality
 - (d) Humans' command over nature

Question 2

[10]

Complete the following sentences by providing a reason for each in brief. Do not write the question.

- (i) In Act III Scene v of the play, *Macbeth*, Hecate is angry with the three witches because _____.
- (ii) In Act IV Scene iii of the play, *Macbeth*, Malcolm is suspicious of Macduff's intentions because _____.
- (iii) In Act V Scene i of the play, *Macbeth*, the doctor says, "This disease is beyond my practice" because _____.
- (iv) In Act IV Scene i of the play, *Macbeth*, Macbeth gets angry at the witches when they show him the vision of the line of kings because _____.
- (v) In the short story, *The Medicine Bag*, Martin and his family felt guilty when 'Grandpa' travelled all alone to their home because _____.
- (vi) In the short story, *The Cookie Lady*, when Bubber informs Mrs. Drew that it would be his last visit, she is stunned because _____.
- (vii) In the short story, *Atithi*, Motilal Babu is initially reluctant to marry his daughter to Tarapada because _____.
- (viii) In the poem, *Tithonus*, Tithonus terms his immortality 'cruel' because _____.
- (ix) In the poem, *Beethoven*, the musicians made fun of Beethoven's madness because _____.
- (x) In the poem, *Telephone Conversation*, the speaker on the phone makes a 'self-confession' because _____.

SECTION B – 60 MARKS

MACBETH – WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Question 3

- (i) How does Lady Macduff respond to her husband's sudden departure in Act IV Scene ii? What does her response suggest about her nature? [5]

Incorporate the following details and write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words.

- Lady Macduff's accusations
- Aspects of her nature

- (ii) What secrets does Lady Macbeth reveal as she walks in her sleep in Act V Scene i? What changes do you notice in her from the Banquet scene in Act III? [5]

Incorporate the following details and write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words.

- Utterances in sleepwalking
- Her conduct in the Banquet scene and the Sleepwalking scene

- (iii) (a) Do you think that Malcolm has the kingly qualities that Macbeth lacks? Justify your answer in 200 - 250 words by referring to the Acts studied. [10]

OR

- (b) The minor characters in the play act as commentators to the events that unfold in Scotland. Discuss the statement in 200 - 250 words with reference to the Acts studied. [10]

PRISM- A COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES

Question 4

- (i) In the short story, *Indigo*, Bholu Babu warns Aniruddha against undertaking a solo car journey from Calcutta to Dumka. Describe the consequences of Aniruddha's decision. [5]

Incorporate the following details and write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words.

- Obstacles faced by Aniruddha in the journey
- Effect on him

- (ii) Referring closely to the short story, *There Will Come Soft Rains*, describe any four routine activities performed by the automated devices. Comment on their significance. [5]

Write your answer in 100 - 150 words incorporating the following details.

- Description of any four activities
- Significance of the activities

- (iii) (a) Why do Martin's friends appreciate his 'Grandpa' in the short story, *The Medicine Bag*? How does peer pressure affect Martin's attitude towards his 'Grandpa'? Answer in 200 - 250 words. [10]

OR

- (b) Explore Tarapada's relationship with Annapurna and Charushashi in the short story, *Athiti*. Why, in your opinion, does Tarapada leave Kathaliya? Answer in 200 - 250 words. [10]

RHAPSODY- POETRY

Question 5

- (i) How does the poet depict the eternal nature of the river in the poem, *Small Towns and the River*? [5]

Write your answer in 100 - 150 words incorporating the following details.

- Journey of the river through the land and the town
- Poet's view of the river

- (ii) Describe Beethoven's efforts to live up to his father's expectations. Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100 - 150 words by incorporating the following aspects. [5]

- His father's expectations and treatment of Beethoven
- Difficulties Beethoven faced in fulfilling those expectations

- (iii) (a) The poem, *Telephone Conversation*, does not unite but separates the two individuals engaged in a telephone conversation. Analyse the statement in 200 - 250 words. [10]

OR

- (b) With reference to the theme of immortality, analyse the portrayal of Eos / Aurora in the poem, *Tithonus*, in 200 - 250 words. [10]

