



G.C.E. (O/L) PRACTICE TEST - 2016

1061

GRADE 11

APPRECIATION OF ENGLISH LITERARY TEXTS

THREE HOURS

Note: Answer five (05) questions only

- Answer Question 1 and *four* others, selecting one (01) from each section; POETRY, DRAMA, PROSE and FICTION

Part 1

Section- A

Answer all the questions.

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

- 1) "How can I try to explain, cause when I do he turns away again. It's always been the same, same old story"
a) From where are these lines taken? Who wrote them?
b) Who speaks these lines to whom?
c) Why are these words spoken? What is meant by "Same old story"? (5 marks)
- 2) "Art thou so fruitful? Or dost thou beguile
Such men to honour thee, who, worn with toil"
a) Name the work from which these lines are taken. Who is the writer?
b) Who is referred to as "thee"? Which literary device is used here?
c) What idea does the writer need to convey in the above line? (5 marks)
- 3) "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 words are taken? Who is the author?
b) What incident is described here? Who is referred to as "I"?
c) Write your reaction on such a situation. (5 marks)
- 4) "He told you twice, but you weren't listening. You often don't listen when we tell you important things."
a) From which text is this extract taken? Name the writer.
b) Who speaks these lines to whom? Who is referred to as "He" in the above lines.
c) Write your opinion about the two Characters "you" and the "Speaker" briefly. (5 marks)
- 5) "You poor idiot! If you get a lot of profit from it, your wife'd be pleased, too."
a) From which work is this extract taken? Who wrote them?
b) Who speaks these lines? Who is referred to as "you" here?
c) Describe the above situation briefly. (5 marks)

III. Write the meanings of the following words/ phrases in your own words.

(a) Awful and scary

(b) Intermittently

(2 marks)

IV. Describe "I" and his/ her efforts to express his childhood memories related to the environment.

(4 marks)

OR

(c). 'Mind not thy mischance, good man; there be others in the world whose identity is denied, and whose claims are derided. Thou hast company.'

'Ah, my king,' cried Hendon, colouring slightly, 'do not thou condemn me-wait and thou shalt see. I am no impostor- she will say it; you shall hear it from the sweetest lips in England. I an impostor? Why I know this old hall, these pictures of my ancestors, and all these things that are about us, as a child knoweth its own nursery. Here was I born and bred, my lord; I speak the truth; I would not deceive thee; and should none else believe, I pray thee do not thou doubt me – I could not bear it.'

'I do not doubt thee,' said the king, with a childlike simplicity and faith.

'I thank thee out of my heart!' exclaimed Hendon, with a fervency which showed that he was touched. The king added, with the same gentle simplicity:

'Dost thou doubt *me*?'

A guilty confusion seize upon Hendon, and he was grateful that the door opened to admit Hugh, at that moment, and saved him the necessity of replying.

A beautiful lady, richly clothed, followed Hugh, and after her came several liveried servants. The lady walked slowly, with her head bowed

1. What situation is described in the passage?

(2 marks)

2. Where does the incident take place? What is Hendon's relationship to it?

(2 marks)

3. Write the meanings of the following in your own words.

1. colouring slightly

2. claims are derided

(2 marks)

4. Briefly describe the two characters Hugh and Hendon?

(4 marks)

Part II

(Each question carries 15 marks)

Poetry

01. "The writer Emile Dickinson exposes the intricate beauty of nature and its awesome grandeur in her poem "A bird came down the walk"". Do you think the above statement is an applicable statement to the poem? Discuss.
02. "Farewell to Barn and stack and Tree" by A.E.Housman displays ballad features? Do you agree? Explain citing examples from the text.
03. "The helpless caged bird regardless of all the physical and mental torture opens its mouth to voice an important message". Present your views using related examples from the poem.
04. The poem "Father and Son" by Cat Stevens reflects the impulse of generations in general. Comment.
05. Which poem is the most suitable poem to represent the theme humour? Justify your answer using examples from the text of your choice.

Prose

01. "The short story the Nightingale and the Rose by Oscar Wilde reflects the writer's glorification on nature and devoted love." Discuss with examples from the text.
02. "Even though Nicholas is an average child, he stands for the child's fabulous world of imagination in general." Comment.
03. "The versatility in his character helps Kumar Sangakkara to become a remarkable person." Explain your views using evidence from the prose "The Lahore attack"
04. The prose "wave" by Sonali Deraniyagala not only reminds us of the fragile nature of human life but also the power of resiliency. Do you think the above statement is applicable to the text? Discuss with examples.

Drama

01. The drama "The Bear" by Anton Chekov shows how human emotions dominate people in spite of social conventions. Comment, referring to the drama.
02. The drama "Twilight of a Crane" by Jun ji Kinoshita enlightens the reader on human nature. Discuss using examples.

Fiction

01. Do you think the novel "The Vender of Sweets" reveals the loneliness of two individuals in spite of their distant reaction to each other? Explain citing examples from the novel by R.K. Narayan
02. Which character is more benefitted with the turn of events in the novel? The Prince or the Pauper? Present your views referring to the novel 'The Prince and the Pauper by Mark Twain.
03. Discuss the events that change the life of the main character in "Bringing Tony Home" using evidence from the novel "Bringing Tony Home" by Tissa Abeysekara.

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- 6) "Hm! Is that the last word you've got to say?"
- Where does this line appear? Name the writer.
 - What incident is highlighted in the above extract? To whom are the words spoken?
 - Explain the character of "you" briefly, paying attention to his/her qualities. (5 marks)

Section-B

Answer either (a), (b) or (c).

Either

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

"I saw the boy and spoke to him. I managed to get him a cup of coffee also."

"Did you give him anything to eat? He must have been hungry."

"They'll treat him specially. I know the District Collector, and also we can get things done. I got the news at six o'clock. I was returning from the house of the superintending Engineer, where I had gone to fix up a home tutor for their son. At the turning near the General Post Office an orderly from the Superintendent's house gave me the news, the green car was halted at the Mempi outpost where they generally check for prohibition offences, as they find a lot of illicit distilling and traffic in the jungles high up.

- What is the situation presented in the paragraph? Where does it take place? (2 marks)
- Who got the news and what was the news? (2 marks)
- What do the following words/phrases mean?
 - Prohibition offences.
 - illicit distilling (2 marks)
- Present your views on "I" in this incident highlighting his /her positive as well as negative qualities. (4 marks)

OR

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

"It was awful and scary in the beginning and it pressed down from all sides. Then I saw the window. It had a green frame with rusted iron bars across which sagged a curtain improvised from a piece of an old saree. It was the white voile saree with clusters of purple flowers Mother used to wear for months until it broke into little pillow covers for sister when she was born and also a coverlet for the cot; now it has become a window curtain. The panes had opened outwards but I could see an edge of one of the panes where it caught the sun and that edge as green too- faded dirty old green. Beyond that was another green, leaves, wet and glistening in the sun, and looking unusually fresh and clean. Then slowly like a picture coming into focus, the sounds became clear, sharpened and tuned; the demalichchas were keeping up a chorus not very clear and it was vague in its shrill pitch and took time to separate from the atmosphere to become a sound; then I heard the crows, not all at once but intermittently and not in one place but from here and there far and near;"

- What is the situation referred to in the above extract? Where does it take place? (2 marks)
- What made "I" speak these words? (2 marks)