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Second Term Test - 2025

Grade 10 | **Appreciation of English Literary Texts - I** | **Time: 03 Hours**

Index No:

Additional Reading Time – 10 minutes

Use the additional reading time to go through the question paper, select the questions and decide on the questions you prioritize answering.

Instructions

Answer scripts of Paper I and Paper II are collected separately at the end of the allocated time.
Answers to Paper I should be written in the space provided on the question paper.

PART - I

- Answer all the questions in Section A
- Select either (1), (2) or (3) from Section B and answer all the questions given below it.
- The maximum marks allocated for Paper I is 40.

Section A – Poetry, Prose & Drama

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

I - POETRY

1. (1) "And if the skull speaks no word
This Kagwa himself must die"

a. Name the poem from which these lines are taken? Name the poet. (01 mark)

.....

.....

b. Whose order is this? (01 mark)

.....

.....

c. What is Kagwa? (01 mark)

.....

.....

d. Why was this order issued? How does it affect Kagwa? (02 marks)

.....

.....

(2) "It's a strange life we're leading here just now,
No one can complain of boredom"

a. From which poem are the above lines taken? Name the poet. (01 mark)

.....

.....

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b. Who speaks these lines? (01 mark)

.....

.....

a. What's the tone of the speaker here? (01 mark)

.....

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b. What event is meant by the term "just now"? Why had that created a "strange life" for the speaker? (02 marks)

.....

.....

(3) "And Maurice amongst the hay lies still

And my knife is in his side"

a. Name the poem from which these lines are taken. Name the writer. (01 mark)

.....

.....

b. Who is the speaker? (01 mark)

.....

.....

c. Why does Maurice lay still? (01 mark)

.....

.....

d. What mindset of the speaker is reflected through this extract? (02 marks)

.....

.....

2 Prose

2. (1) "In the first place, it was large and dimly lit, one high window opening onto the forbidden garden being its only source of illumination."

a. From which work are these lines taken? Name the author. (01 mark)

.....

.....

b. What is referred to as "it"? (01 mark)

.....

.....

c. What is meant by "forbidden garden"? (01 mark)

.....

.....

d. What made Nicholas get attracted to this place so much? What feelings does he have towards being able to enter it?

.....

.....

(02 marks)

(2) "Fainter and fainter grew her song, and she felt something choking her in her throat."

a. From which work are these lines taken? Name the author. (01 mark)

.....

.....

b. Whom is referred to as "she"? (01 mark)

.....

.....

c. What specific situation does the extract relate to? (01 mark)

.....

.....

b. How does this situation bring out the theme of the story ? (02 marks)

.....

.....

3. (1) "Tilan has been brought back, sedated but fully conscious, to be with us and we make jokes at him and he smiles back."

a. Name the text from which this line is taken. Name the speaker. (01 mark)

.....

.....

b. Who is Tilan? (01 mark)

.....

.....

c. From where has he been brought back? (01 mark)

.....

.....

d. What kind of bond exist between Tilan and "we"? How does this bond help them to face critical situations ? (02 marks)

.....

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Section B – Novels

Select either (1), (2) or (3) from Section B and answer all the questions given below it.

(1) Read the following extract from **The Prince and the Pauper** and answer the questions.

The lights began to twinkle, it came on to rain, the wind rose, and a raw and gusty night set in. The homeless heir to the throne of England still moved on, drifting deeper into the maze of squalid alleys.

Suddenly a great drunken ruffian collared him and said:

'Out to this time of night again, and hast not brought a farthing home, I warrant me! If it be so, and do not break all the bones in thy lean body, then am I not John Canty, but some other' The prince twisted himself loose, and eagerly said:

'Oh, art his father, truly? Sweet Heaven grant it be so – then wilt thou fetch him away and restore me!'

'His father? I know not what thou mean'st; I but know I am thy father, as thou shalt soon have cause to -'

'Oh, jest not, I can bear no more. Take me to the king my father, and he will make thee rich beyond thy wildest dreams. Believe me, man, believe me! – I speak no lie, but only the truth! – put forth thy hand and save me! I am indeed the Prince of Wales!'

i. When and where does this incident take place? (02 marks)

.....

.....

ii. What did the prince expect John Canty to do? (02 marks)

.....

.....

iii. Write the meanings of the following phrases as they occur in the passage.

a) farthing .....(01 mark)

b) restore ..... (01 mark)

iv. What social class does John Canty represent? Comment on his behavior. (04 marks)

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(2) Read the following extract from **Bringing Tony Home** and answer the questions given below.

As I looked around things were blurred, and there was a feeling somewhere in me of getting choked, of not being able to breathe, and my legs were numb and my body wet and slowly going cold, and since this exactly how I felt when I used to get those fits long ago and which was the reason I was not sent to school – or rather one of the reasons – I was gripped with fear, which made me sweat more and feel dizzy. Then the thought occurred to me – not in a blinding flash, but in a slow gradual manner like when you slip into a coma which happened whenever I had those fits, and which is painless because it means giving up the struggle and relaxing – that I will never make it home. I dropped my head on the gunny bad and felt comfortable and I closed my eyes and heard Tony's heavy breathing and felt his breath on my face, and a breeze came over the paddy fields making me cool like when Mother spread a piece of cloth dipped in cologne on my forehead during high fever.

i. When and where does this take place? (02 marks)

.....

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ii. Why was the narrator not sent to school? (02 marks)

.....

.....

iii. Write the meanings of the following phrases as they occur in the passage.

a) blurred ..... (01 marks)

b) gripped with fear ..... (01 marks)

iv. What kind of relationship is visible between Tony and the narrator? How does it relate to the theme of the novel? (04 marks)

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(3) Read the following extracts from **The Vendor of Sweets** and answer the questions given below it.

The boy looked up angrily. In his anxiety to communicate a new idea to his father, he had become brusque and aggressive. His face was flushed.
'So early in the morning, and the boy showing such a temper!' Jagan reflected as if temper had an approved timetable. 'All right, get on with your eating. We'll talk of these things later,' he mumbled when he should have said, 'Swallow your food and run off to your class.' He was a cowardly father and felt afraid to mention class or college.

i. When and where does this incident happen? (02 marks)

.....

.....

ii. Why had the boy become aggressive? (02 marks)

.....

.....

i. Write the meanings of the following phrases as they occur in the passage.

a) brusque ..... (01 mark)

b) mumbled .....(01 mark)

ii. What qualities of Jagan are shown here? How does it affect his relationship with the boy? (04 marks)

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Second Term Test - 2025

Grade 10

Appreciation of English Literary Texts - II

01 **Instructions**

- Answer four questions selecting one each from the four sections- ***POETRY, DRAMA, PROSE*** and ***FICTION***
- Answer to **Paper II** should be written in the given booklet.
- The maximum marks allowed for **Paper II** is 60
- Answer two questions from POETRY.

Poetry

(Answer **two** question only)

1. Discuss how Tennyson explores nature's wonder in **The Eagle.**
2. Discuss how William Blake brings out beauty and harmony in nature through **To the Evening Star.**
3. How does A. E. Housman reveal the negative results of uncontrolled emotions in the poem, **Farewell to Barn and Stack and Tree.**
4. Discuss how Szymborska shows effects of violence on innocent humans in **The Terrorist, He's Watching.**
5. Yasmine Gooneratne explores ethnic issues in Sri Lanka in **Big Match, 1983.**' Justify.
6. Discuss how Johnson Agard views duality in life through **The Clown's Wife.**
7. Discuss how Edward Lowbury ridicules discrete talking in **The Huntsman.** (15 marks)

Prose

(Answer **one** question only)

8. Give your views to show how Sangakkara emerges as a passionate cricketer and a loyal Sri Lankan in **The Lahore Attack.**
9. Would you say that theoretical education lies far from wisdom, referring to the young student in **The Nightingale and the Rose**? Comment.
10. How would you support Saki in expressing the weaknesses of the Aunt in **The Lumber Room**? (15 marks)

Fiction

(Answer **one** question only)

11. Compare and contrast Edward Tudor and Tom Canty in **The Prince and the Pauper.**
12. Compare and contrast the lives led by the narrator before and after their moving to Egodawatta in **Bringing Tony Home.**
13. Compare and contrast the characters of Jagan and the Cousin as seen in **The Vendor of Sweets.**

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