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## LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

### ENGLISH Paper - 2

( *Two hours* )

*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.*

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*Attempt **five** questions in all.*

*You must attempt **one** question 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 [ ].*

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## SECTION A - DRAMA

(Attempt either THE MERCHANT OF VENICE or LOYALTIES)

### Shakespeare: THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

#### Question 1

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Shylock Ay, ay, three thousand ducats.

Antonio

And for three months.

Shylock

I had forgot; three months; you told me so.

Well then, your bond; and let me see; but hear you;

Methought you said you neither lend nor borrow

Upon advantage.

Antonio

I do never use it.

- Act I Scene 3

(i) Which character has entered the scene last? Why has he come here? Who else is present in the scene?

[3]

- (ii) How has the character mentioned in your answer to the first part of (i) been portrayed as in earlier scene(s)? [3]
- (iii) What is his occupation? According to Shylock, how are 'his means in supposition'? [3]
- (iv) What does Antonio mean by 'I do never use it'? Why is he 'using it' now? How does 'using it' harm Antonio later? [3]
- (v) What comparison does Shylock later make to justify charging of interest? [4]

## Question 2

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Portia

Tarry, Jew:

The law hath yet another hold on you.

It is enacted in the laws of Venice,

If it be proved against an alien

That by direct or indirect attempts

He seek the life of any citizen,

The party 'gainst which he doth contrive

Shall seize one half of his goods; the other half

Comes to the privy coffer of the state;

And the offender's life lies in the mercy

Of the Duke only, 'gainst all other voice.

- Act IV Scene 1

- (i) What was Shylock about to do? Why does Portia ask him to tarry a little? [3]
- (ii) What is 'yet another hold of the law' which Portia is talking about in the extract? [3]
- (iii) Is the penalty imposed by the Venetian law on Shylock justified? Give reasons for your answer. [3]
- (iv) What does Antonio say when he is asked to render Shylock mercy? [3]
- (v) Explain the lines: [4]
- a) Had I been the judge, thou shouldst have had ten more,  
To bring thee to the gallows, not to the font.
- b) Thou hast not left the value of a cord;  
Therefore thou must be hang'd at the state's charge.

# LOYALTIES

## John Galsworthy

### Question 3

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Winsor: In bed?

V. of Lady A : No.

[ She appears in the doorway in undergarment and a wrapper. She, too, is fair, about thirty-five, rather delicious, and suggestive of porcelain]

Winsor: Win at Bridge?

Lady A: No dear.

Winsor: Who did?

Lady A: Lord St Erth and Ferdy De Levis.

Winsor: That man has too much luck – the young bounder won two races today; and he is as rich as Croesus.

Lady A: Oh! Charlie he did look so exactly as if he'd sold me a carpet when I was paying him.

Winsor: [Changing his slippers] His father did sell carpets, wholesale, in the City.

Act- I Scene-1

- (i) What is the subject of discussion in this passage? [3]
- (ii) Where are the speakers? Describe the scene. [3]
- (iii) Who were the two persons who won at the bridge? [3]
- (iv) Why is De Levis called lucky? [3]
- (v) What was the profession of De Levis' father? [4]

### Question 4

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

De Levis: [Tremulous with anger] Don't trouble yourselves about my membership. I resign it.

[To Dancy] You called me a damned Jew. My race was old when you were all savages.

I am proud to be a Jew. Au revoir, in the Courts.

St Erth: Well, Captain Dancy?

Dancy: If the brute won't fight, what am I to do, sir?

St Erth: We've told you – take action, to clear your name.

Act-II Scene-1

- (i) Where are the speakers? Name the other persons who were present there. [3]
- (ii) Why has De Levis been called a "brute"? [3]
- (iii) "I am proud to be a Jew." What does De Levis want to convey by this statement? [4]
- (iv) Who called De Levis "a damned Jew"? What does it reflect? [3]

(v) What does St Erth tell Dancy to do? [3]

**SECTION B – POETRY**  
**A Collection of ICSE Poems**

**Question 5**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

What do you weigh, O ye vendors?

Saffron and lentil and rice.

What do you grind, O ye maidens?

Sandalwood, henna and spice.

What do you call, O ye pedlars?

Chessmen and ivory dice.

(i) What items have been described in the above lines? [3]

(ii) Give the symbolic representation for each of the above items. What is the significance of this stanza to Indian culture? [3]

(iii) How has visual imagery been presented in the poem? [3]

(iv) At the end of the poem, the poet states the different types of flowers sold in the bazaars and their uses in various occasions. Describe them and mention the occasion that each of them signify. [3]

(v) What is the main theme of this poem? [4]

**Question 6**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,

Is our destined end or way;

But to act, that each tomorrow

Find us farther than today.

Art is long and Time is fleeting

And our hearts, though stout and brave,

Still, like muffled drums, are beating

Funeral marches to the grave.

(i) What, according to the poet, should be 'our destined end or way'? [3]

(ii) What are 'muffled drums'? Why have our hearts been compared to muffled drums? [3]

- (iii) How does the poet develop a positive attitude towards life in the mind of the reader? [3]
- (iv) What, according to the poet, is the two-fold path to success, mentioned later in the poem? [3]
- (v) Enumerate the moral principles emphasized on by the poet in the poem. [4]

## SECTION C – PROSE

### A Collection of ICSE Short Stories

#### Question 7

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Then he entered the water just above the bridge. The river seized them and flattened them against the wreck. At first he could not move, but then he began to edge forward into the maelstrom, holding on to this and that, feeling forward in the storm of water for things to hold and finding the split ends of bamboo that were sharp enough to disembowel a man.

- (i) Where was 'he' going and why? [3]
- (ii) Where was his father present? Why was he there? What can you conclude about his father's attitude towards his family? [3]
- (iii) What was the financial condition of his family? Give two examples from the story to support your answer. [3]
- (iv) Describe the 'maelstrom' mentioned in the extract. [3]
- (v) Mention two problems that 'he' had faced last before reaching here. How did he face these difficulties? [4]

#### Question 8

The Tiger in the Tunnel is the story of human struggle against the forces of nature.

Discuss this statement in the light of various events in the story. [16]