

MAR THOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL  
FIRST MODEL EXAMINATION - DECEMBER - 2018

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

ENGLISH PAPER -2

(TWO HOURS)

STD X

*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.*

*Attempt **five** questions in all from only **three** text books.  
You must attempt at least **one** question from each of the Sections A,B and C  
and **not more than two other questions** from the same books you have already compulsorily  
chosen. The intended marks for questions or part of questions are given in brackets [ ].*

SECTION A - DRAMA

The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare

Question 1.

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

Portia: .....*But this reasoning is not in the fashion to choose me a husband. O me, the word "choose"! I may neither choose whom I would, nor refuse whom I dislike; so is the will of a living daughter curbed by the will of a dead father. Is it not hard, Nerissa, that I cannot choose one, nor refuse none?*

- i) What test had Portia's father devised for her suitors? What oath did the suitors have to take before making their choice? [3]
- ii) Who is Nerissa? What does she say to cheer up Portia? [3]
- iii) Why does Portia disapprove of the County Palatine? Whom would she rather marry? [3]
- iv) How, according to Portia, can the Duke of Saxony's nephew be made to choose the wrong casket? What do these suitors ultimately decide? Why? [3]
- v) Whom does Portia ultimately marry? Who were the two other suitors who took the test? Why, in your opinion, is the person whom she marries worthy of her? [4]

## Question 2.

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

Shylock: *How now, Tubal! what news from Genoa? hast thou found my daughter?*

Tubal: *I often came where I did hear of her, but cannot find her.*

- i) Who is Tubal? What has been said about him a little earlier in the scene? Why did he go to Genoa? [3]
- ii) What are the losses Shylock mentions in response to Tubal's words 'but I cannot find her'? What does she wish for Jessica in his fury? [3]
- iii) What information does Tubal now give to Shylock concerning Antonio? State what Shylock tells Tubal expressing his reaction to what the latter has said? [3]
- iv) What instructions does Shylock give to Tubal at the end of their meeting? [3]
- v) What is your impression of Shylock as a father? Give reasons to justify [4]

## Question 3.

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

Portia: *Let me give light, but let me not be light;  
For a light wife doth make a heavy husband,  
And never be Bassanio so for me:  
But God sort all! You are welcome home, my lord.*

- i) What does Portia mean by 'Let me give light, but let me not be light' Why does she say 'let me not be light'? [3]
- ii) Explain the remark Bassanio makes about Portia just before the extract? [3]
- iii) How does Bassanio introduce Antonio to Portia and what reply does she give then? [3]
- iv) How did Portia interpret 'the law' to get Antonio acquitted of, in Act IV? [4]
- v) Explain the comment Antonio makes about Portia towards the end of the scene? What were the good comforts brought by the fair ladies to Lorenzo and Jessica? [3]

Question 4[ not to be attempted]

Question 5[ not to be attempted]

Question 6[ not to be attempted]

## SECTION B – POETRY

Answer one or more questions from this Section.  
A Collection of Poems

### Question 7.

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

*Some are meet for a maiden's wrist,  
Silver and blue as the mountains mist,  
Some are flushed like the buds that dream,  
On the tranquil brow of a woodland stream,  
Some are aglow with the bloom that cleaves  
To the limpid glory of new born leaves.*

- i) What type of bangles befit a maiden's wrist? Why are silver and blue colours compared to the mountain mist? [3]
- ii) In what way are the buds set to dream? Explain the figure of speech used in "the buds set to dream"? [3]
- iii) How are the bangles compared to the new born leaves? [3]
- iv) In what ways does the poet associate bangles with a bride in the next stanza? [3]
- v) The poem 'The Bangle Sellers' is an expression of stages in a woman's life in traditional Indian society. Elucidate. [4]

### Question 8.

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

*But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams  
his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream  
his wings are clipped and his feet are tied  
so he opens his throat to sing.*

- i) Describe the image of the free bird as presented in the beginning of the poem. [3]
- ii) What is the 'grave of dreams'? Why does a caged bird stand on the grave of dreams? [3]
- iii) What song does the encaged bird sing about? Why? [3]
- iv) What does the free bird think about as is said in the stanza before the extract? [3]
- v) What does the poet actually want to convey through the use of her metaphorical birds? [4]

### Question 9.

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

*I go in the rain, and, more than needs,  
A rope cuts both my wrists behind;  
And I think, by the feel, my forehead bleeds,  
For they fling, whoever has a mind,  
Stones at me for my year's misdeeds.*

- i) Who is the 'I' mentioned here? Where is he going? What does the rain symbolize here?
- ii) How do we know that he is being treated very harshly?
- iii) How had the same people treated him a year ago as is mentioned in the first stanza of the poem?
- iv) How does the phrase 'my year's misdeeds' add to ambiguity in the poem?
- v) How does the person skillfully depict his innocence at the end?

### SECTION C – PROSE

Answer one or more questions from this Section.

#### Question 10.

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

*The girl's eyes, fascinated, went back, widening a little, to rest upon the glittering handcuffs. "Don't you worry about them, miss," said the other man. "All marshals hand themselves to their prisoners to keep them from getting away. ."*

- i) Why were the girl's eyes fascinated? Who were handcuffed? Why?
- ii) What comment does the other man make on the handcuffs? Why does he praise Easton in handcuffs?
- iii) What does Mr Easton say when the girl asks him whether she would see him soon in Washington? Why?"?
- iv) What did the other man do to cut short the conversation between Easton and Miss Fairchild? What could be the reason for this action?
- v) How is the mistaken identity used in the plot of the story?

#### Question 11.

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

*He gave her a shove. But she did not move: rather she let herself be moved only by Him and nothing else. They edged away from her, they would not look at her.*

- i) Who is the 'she' mentioned here? Explain the setting of the story.
- ii) How is 'she' described just before the extract?
- iii) Why did the other children resent the girl?
- iv) What is that she remembers but others not? Why?
- v) When did William seize her? How does she react to the others locking her in the closet? Why does she react this way?

#### Question 12

Answer the following questions with reference to Norah Burke's 'The Blue Bead'

- a) How does the writer paint a pen- picture of the monstrous strength of the crocodile?
- b) Why does Norah Burke say that Sibia, 'in all her life from birth to death was marked for work'?
- c) Give a brief description of Sibia's encounter with the crocodile. What was her greatest 'take-away' from the experience? What does this tell us about her?