

MAR THOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

Second Terminal Examination 2017-18

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

ENGLISH PAPER – 2

(TWO HOURS)

STD- IX

Marks: 80

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

SECTION A – DRAMA

The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare

Question I.

Shylock:

..... *By Jacob's staff, I swear
I have no mind of feasting forth to-night;
But I will go.*

- 1) Who is Jacob? Why does Shylock swear by Jacob's staff? Why is he reluctant to attend the feast as is mentioned by him in the same scene? (3)
- 2) What directions does Shylock give to Jessica, when he is told that there will be masques? (3)
- 3) What does Launcelot whisper to Jessica as he leaves? What does Shylock ask Jessica when he sees Launcelot whispering to her? (3)
- 4) What is Shylock's estimate of Launcelot's character? (3)
- 5) What does this scene reveal of Shylock's character? (4)

Question II.

Bassanio:

..... *Pray thee, take pain
To allay with some cold drops of modesty
Thy skipping spirit*

- 1) Whom does Bassanio request to allay his 'skipping spirit'? What is said about this person in the lines just before the extract? (3)
- 2) Why does Bassanio request the person to amend his character? What request does the person make to Bassanio as soon as he meets him? (3)
- 3) What are the changes in behaviour, the person intends making in his case? (4)
- 4) What appeal does the person make of Bassanio before he leaves? What is Bassanio's reaction to this? (3)
- 5) Where do each of them go at the end of the scene? When are they to meet that day? (3)

SECTION B - POETRY

Question III.

*Old Kaspar took it from the boy,
Who stood expectant by:*

- 1) Where was old Kaspar sitting? What mood was he in? How do you know? (3)
- 2) Who were the two grandchildren of old Kaspar? Where were they? (3)
- 3) What is the 'it' that old Kaspar took from the boy? Why did he stand expectant by? What did the old man do on seeing it? (3)
- 4) What did the old man say about 'it' in the next lines? How common was 'it' in his garden? (3)
- 5) Explain the irony in the same stanza. (4)

Question IV.

*The angel wrote, and vanished. The next night
It came again with a great wakening light.*

- 1) What had made Abou 'low' in the stanza before? What did Abou request to the vision? What happened then? (3)
- 2) What happened the next night? What did 'it' show Abou? (3)
- 3) Explain the climax in the poem. (3)
- 4) Briefly give a character sketch of Abou Ben Adhem. (3)
- 5) Explain the theme of the poem. (4)

Question V.

"She huddled down in a heap in a corner formed by two houses,"

- 1) What is the weather mentioned as is in the beginning of the story? How was the little child moving in the streets? (3)
- 2) Why didn't the little child dare to go home? (3)
- 3) What did the poor child do to warm herself up? (3)
- 4) Which was the last picture that she saw on the wall and which she did not want to vanish? Why? (3)
- 5) How appropriate is the title of the story? (4)