

City International School

FIRST PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2014 – 2015

Date : 18/11/2014

Marks : 80

Std : X

Subject : English Literature

Time : 2 hrs

Answer 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.

You must attempt **One** question from each of the Section A, B and C and any **Two** other questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets ().

SECTION – A [DRAMA]

Merchant of Venice

Q. 1 Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

Portia: To these injunction everyone doth swear.
That come to hazard for my worthless self.

Arragon: And so have I addressed me. Fortune now to my heart's hope!
Gold, Silver and base lead.

- i. Where are Portia and Arragon? What had brought them together? (3)
- ii. What were the 'injunctions'? What does 'hazard' mean, and why does Portia use this word? (3)
- iii. What does Arragon mean by 'So I have addressed me'? What does he now wish? What do the words gold, silver and lead refer to? (3)
- iv. State the last inscriptions that Arragon read. Which one did he choose and what was the result? (3)
- v. What is the message brought in by the end of this scene? What is Portia's comment on hearing it? (4)

Q. 2 Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

Duke: With all my heart some three or four of you
Go give him courteous conduct to this place.
(Exeunt officers)

Clerk (reads): Your Grace shall understand that at the receipt of your letter. I am very sick: but in the instant that your message came, in loving visitation was with me a young doctor of Rome, his name is

Baltazar. I acquainted him with the cause in controversy between the Jew and Antonio the merchant.

- i. Who is referred to as 'him' in the second line of this extract? Who brought Information about him? What would the Duke do if 'him' had not come? (3)
- ii. What is meant by 'Courteous conduct to this place'? Who is Dr. Bellario? (3)
- iii. Why did the Duke send a message to him? What request does Dr. Bellario make to the Duke? What is the theory that Gratino is led to believe in just before this extract? (3)
- iv. What is meant by 'controversy'? How did the controversy arise? What does the 'young doctor of Rome' say about the nature of the controversy a little later? (3)
- v. What is the outcome of the case and what is your opinion of the 'young doctor of Rome'? Justify. (4)

SECTION – B [POETRY] Collection of Poems

Q. 3 Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

'I love her for her smile – her look – her way
of speaking gently, for a trick of thought
that falls in well with mine and certes brought
a sense of pleasant ease on such a day'

- i. What does the speaker mean by saying 'Except for love's sake only'? How does the speaker want her lover to love her? (3)
- ii. What are the thing the poetess does not want to be loved for and why? (3)
- iii. Give the meaning of:
a. for a trick of thought b. A sense of pleasant ease on such a day (3)
- iv. Who is the 'creature' referred to in the poem? Why is it called so? (3)
- v. How does the poem show the demand of equal status by a woman? (4)

Q. 4 Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

Where the mind is without fear
And the head is held high
Where knowledge is free
Where the world has not been broken up into fragments
By narrow domestic walls.

- i. What does the poet urge to God and what does he desire? Why does the poet want his countrymen to be fearless? (3)
- ii. What is meant by 'the head held high'? Why is the head bowed down and needs to be held high? (3)
- iii. What does the poet say about education and knowledge? (3)
- iv. What does the poet mean by 'fragments' and narrow domestic walls'? What has to be done to stop the world from breaking up in fragments? (3)
- v. According to the poet when will India be a 'heaven of freedom'? (4)

SECTION – C [PROSE] Collection of Short Stories

Q. 5 Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

When he had finished the princess was not crying anymore and she quite forgot that she had no supper.

- i. Who is 'he'? What has he finished doing? What offer did 'he' make to the Princess? (3)
- ii. Why had the Princess been crying? How did the Queen and the Maids of Honour react to her crying. (3)
- iii. How did the Princess react to the offer made by 'he'? (3)
- iv. What advice did she get from her sisters? Why? What was its consequence? (3)
- v. Comment on the relationship that developed between the Princess and 'he'? (4)

Q. 6 Human endeavour to survive against all odds is interwoven with the themes of the Story. Describe Baldeo's struggle in the light of the events in the story. (16)