

MODAL QUESTION PAPER-2014

46

E

APPRECIATION OF ENGLISH LITERARY TEXTS

Three hours

Note: Answer **five** questions only

- ❖ Answer question **1** and **four** others, selecting **one** from each section-*POETRY, DRAMA, PROSE and FICTION*.

Part 1

- 1 Section A- Answer all the questions.

Read the following extracts and answer the questions given below each extract.

- i. “In the porch I met my father crying. He had always taken funeral in his stride.”

- a) Where do you get this line and who wrote them?

.....
.....
.....
.....

- b) What is this incident?

.....
.....
.....
.....

- c) Explain the meaning of the second line.

.....
.....
.....

- ii. “Others trumpeted their grief in loud sobs and lachrymose blubber”.

- a) From where are these lines taken? Who wrote them?

.....
.....
.....

- b) Who are the others mentioned here?

-
.....
- c) Write the context of this briefly?
.....
.....
- iii. “The fault must partly have been in me. The bird was not to blame”.
- a) Where do you get these lines and who wrote them?
.....
.....
- b) What has the speaker discovered?
.....
.....
- c) What quality in him do you notice?
.....
.....
- iv. “Your dowry! My poor child we spent that long ago”.
- a) From where is this line taken and who wrote them?
.....
.....
- b) Who says this line to whom?
.....
.....
- c) In what context is this line said? What does it say about the speaker?
- v. “three years of whispering and loneliness and plotting, day by day”
- a) From where are these lines taken? Who wrote them?
.....
.....
- b) What type of atmosphere does this line create?
.....
.....
- c) What attitude does the writer have towards the character described here in these circumstances?
.....
- vi. “And bugles calling for them from sad shires.” What candles may be held to speed them all?”
- a) Where do you get these lines? Who wrote them?
.....
- b) What are the bugles symbolic of?
.....

- c) What emotion does the poet invoke upon “them” in the mind of the reader?

.....

Section-B

Read the following extract and answer the questions at the end.

1. “Hari, he will kill himself drinking the toddy those wicked men make and sell. Let him, Hari” said again, chewing.

“And mother? And mother?” cried Leela. “And us? What about us? Who will look after us?” “He does not look after us” said Hari. Spitting out the end of a very sharp chillie” we look after ourselves. Don’t we?” “But how?” cried Leela. “ we don’t go school anymore, you and I. only Bela and Kamal go and next year we won’t be able to buy them any new books, we hardly eat anything, but this dry bread, dry rice, every day.”

- a. Who are “he” and “wicked men” referred here?

.....

- b. Write two words or phrases which described the poverty they face?

.....

- c. What is the problem with “he”?

.....

- d. What do these two characters worry about?

.....

- e. What kind of impression do you gather about the character “Hari” by this passage?

.....

- b) Read the following extract and answer the questions at the end.

In the early evening I sought the shelter of the orchard, for the wind was blowing strongly from the south, which was unusual for that time of July. Below the avenue stood the wreck of the chestnut tree. The **trunk split** down the center, gaped asunder. The great boughs on each side were dead, though the strong base and roots **still held the halves firmly below**.

“You did right to hold fast to each other,” I said as if the split boughs could hear me. “There must be a little life in you yet; for although you will never again have green leaves as of old, each of you has a comrade in his decay.

- a. Whose thoughts are reflected in the passage? What is the situation?

.....

.....

- b. Why did the speaker seek the shelter of the orchard?

.....
.....
c. Write the meanings of the following phrases in your own words.

- Trunk split
- Still held the halves firmly below

d. What is the significance of the split and fallen chestnut tree?
.....
.....

Part- 2

Poetry

- 1) “Leave taking is a criticism of how elders are treated in modern society”. Give your opinion.
- 2) Through humor and playfulness the poet is trying to convey a very common human weakness in the poem “the pig tail” Do you agree? Discuss.
- 3) How do the rhythm and rhyme contribute to the effect created in the poem ‘the charge of the light brigade’ by Alfred Lord Tennyson?
- 4) Does the poet think in the poem ‘She dwelt among the untrodden ways’ he has not appreciated enough?

Drama

- 1) Villa for sale by Sacha Guitry is really an entertaining drama. Do you agree?
- 2) Discuss the moral characteristics described in the play “Every man”.

Prose

- 1) Do you think the title given to the prose text “The Dark Years” is suitable for the passage? Make your comment.
- 2) Do you think Chamley’s fate in ” The Life and Death of Chholamedally “could have been avoided? Argue your case.
- 3) Does the short story ‘The Gift of Magi’ question any prevailing attitudes or beliefs in society? Discuss.
- 4) Do you think Oscar Wilde spot lights some typical social injustices during the time of Victorian era?

Fiction

- 1) What made Hari leave the village? Discuss.
- 2) “Jane Eyre” is a strong moral character which combines passion and reason; gentleness and firmness. Comment on this statement referring to the novel Jane Eyre.

***Prepared by Nanda Gunasekare
31st July 2014***