



## General Certificate of Education (Ord. Level) Examination, 2025

### Term III

**Appreciation of English Literary Texts**  
**Paper I, II**

**Grade**

**11**

**46 E**

**Three hours & 10 mins**

**Index No.....**

#### Instructions:

- Answer all the question in section A.
- Select EITHER I, II OR III from Section B and answer all the questions given below.
- The maximum mark allocated for **Paper I** is **40**.

### Part I

#### Section A – Poetry, Prose, and Drama

Read the following extracts and answer all the questions given below them.

#### I – POETRY

- (i) “Art thou so fruitful? Or dost thou beguile

Such men to honour thee, who, worn with toil,”

- (a) Name the poem from which these lines are taken? Who is the writer? (1 mark)

.....

- (b) Who is referred to as ‘thou’ in these lines? (1 mark)

.....

- (c) Name a literary device used in these lines. (1 mark)

.....

- (d) Briefly describe the writer’s emotions as presented in these lines? (2 marks)

.....

.....

- (ii) “screaming across our screen her agony

At last exposed. Sri Lanka burns alive.”

- (a) Name the poem from which these lines are taken. Who is the writer? (1 mark)

.....

- (b) Who is referred to as ‘her’ in these lines? (1 mark)

.....

(c) What made “her” to be sad?

(1 mark)

.....

(d) Briefly explain the significance of these lines to the poem.

(2 marks)

.....

.....

## II - PROSE

(iii) “You will wear it to-night next your heart, and as we dance together it will tell you how I love you.”

(a) From which work is this line taken? Name the author.

(1 mark)

.....

(b) What is referred to as ‘it’ in this line?

(1 mark)

.....

(c) Who is the speaker?

(1 mark)

.....

(d) What do you understand about the speaker’s character as presented here? (2 marks)

.....

.....

(iv) “But I didn’t. That would have slowed us down. We had no time We had to be fast. I knew that. But I didn’t know what I was fleeing from.”

(a) From which work are these lines taken? Name the author.

(1 mark)

.....

(b) The speaker says “But I didn’t” What didn’t the speaker do?

(1 mark)

.....

(c) Who are referred to as ‘us’ in these lines?

(1 mark)

.....

(d) Briefly describe the narrator’s emotions as presented in this extract.

(2 marks)

.....

.....

## III-DRAMA

(v) “Stop, you foolish bastard! We’re in the big buiseness of money- making; what the hell will the pity and sympathy do!”

(a) Name the play from which this line is taken. Name the writer.

(1 mark)

.....

(b) Who is referred to as ‘you’ in this line?

(1 mark)

.....

(c) When was this line spoken in the play? (1 mark)

.....

(d) Briefly describe the speaker's character as presented in this extract. (2 marks)

.....

.....

(vi) "You may have buried yourself alive, but you haven't forgotten to powder your face!"

(a) Name the play from which this line is taken. Name the writer. (1 mark)

.....

(b) Who spoke this line? (1 mark)

.....

(c) Which attitude of the speaker towards the listener is expressed in this line? (1 mark)

.....

(d) What theme of the drama is highlighted in this line? (2 marks)

.....

## Section B – Novels

Select EITHER I, II OR III from Section B and answer all the questions given below.

1. Read the following extract from **The Prince and the Pauper** and answer all the questions below.

"Lo, the lord of the Kingdom of Dreams and Shadows on his throne!"

He muttered some broken sentences, still gazing and marveling; then turned his eyes around and about, scanning the gorgeous throng and the splendid saloon, murmuring, "But these are REAL- verily these are REAL-surely it is not a dream."

He stared at the king again-and thought, "IS it a dream..... or is he the veritable Sovereign of England, and not the friendless poor Tom o' Bedlam I took him for-who shall solve me this riddle?"

A sudden idea flashed in his eye and he strode to the wall, gathered up a chair, brought it back, planted it on the floor, and sat down in it!

A buzz of indignation broke out, a rough hand was laid upon him and a voice exclaimed-

"Up, thou mannerless clown! Would'st, sit in the presence of the king?"

The disturbance attracted his Majesty's attention, who stretched forth his hand and cried out-"Touch him not, it is his right!"

(i) When and where does this incident described above take place? (2 marks)

.....

(ii) What made him to think that it was a dream? (2 marks)

.....

(iii) Explain the meaning of the following phrases as used in the extract. (2 marks)

a) veritable sovereign

.....

b) strode to the wall

.....

(iv) What themes of this novel could be related to the above extract? (4 marks)

.....

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2. Read the following extract from **Bringing Tony Home** and answer all the questions below.

I was sent with some specific task to do; buy the weekly ration from the co-op store, collect the new ration books from the Head man's office and also, if I could feel up to it, collect the dressing table, mirror- now the mirror was part of the old ebony dressing table, one of the few items left over from the days at the big house, and mother didn't want to risk getting it craced in transport, and she detached it from the table and left it at Mr. Lawrene Perera's house-he was our immediate neighbour, worked at Cargill's and wore a full suit complete with tie was Catholic and went to church every Sundaywith his familyand in their house was a gramophone which played at the latest song of Ananda Samarakoon, and the eldest boy, Anton, was my best friend- to be collected later.But I had another very important task to perform, something I had secretly vowed to myself I would do.

(i) Who is the narrator? From where was he sent? (2 marks)

.....

(ii) What did the writer want to do apart from the tasks assigned by his mother? (2 marks)

.....

(iii) Explain the meaning of the following phrases as used in the extract. (2 marks)

(a) specific task

.....

(b) secretly vowed

.....

(iv) Comment briefly on the character of the speaker as presented in this extract. (4 marks)

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.....  
.....

3. Read the following extract from **The Vendor of Sweets** and answer all the questions below.

Jagan hesitated for the moment, and apologetically, “I don’t know if I could do it,” trying to imagine the remarks of Mali and Grace. Probably Mali would not even notice; he hardly ever looked at him. Why not try at least to amuse him? He suddenly remembered that he himself was a specialist on this and allied subjects. “Diet has a lot to do with the colour of one’s hair. My book on this subject will be out one day and then you will see for yourself; if your diet is controlled according to nature’s specifications, you will never see a grey hair anywhere.”

“That may be the reason why the bear never has a grey hair,” said the bearded man and laughed at the joke. For Jagan, though, this was a serious line of inquiry. He said solemnly, “I must consider the point when my book is finally prepared.

(i) When and where does this incident described above take place? (2 marks)

.....

(ii) Briefly explain the depth of the relationship between Jagan and Mali as presented in this extract. (2 marks)

.....

(iii) Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the extract. (2 marks)

(a) allied subjects

.....

(b) said solemnly

.....

(iv) Briefly describe the character of Jagan as presented in this extract. (4 marks)

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## Provincial Department of Education, Northern Province



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- Answer **four** questions selecting **one each** from the four sections-**POETRY, DRAMA, PROSE** and **FICTION**.
- Answers to **Paper II** should be written in the given papers.
- The maximum mark allocated for **Paper II** is 60.

#### Part II

#### POETRY

(Answer one question only)

1. Discuss how Emily Dikenson's "The Bird Came Down the Walk" elevates an ordinary incident into an intriguing poetic experience.
2. Explore the effectiveness of techniques employed in the poem "War is Kind" to unleash the lethal and intense effects of war in a sarcastic way.
3. Evaluate how the poet sheds light on frailty of human nature through the poem "Richard Cory".
4. "Despite of its imperfection and unattractiveness, natural state is always the best." Analyse the poem "The Eathern Goblet" supporting the statement above.
5. Examine how people become laughing stock when falling from its conformity to its established social standards by referring to the poem "Upside Down" by Alexander Kushner.

#### DRAMA

(Answer one question only)

1. Examine how hypocrisy of the aristocrats in the fudal system of Russia is unveiled in the play "The Bear".

2. The play “**Twilight of a Crane**” places a strong criticism on the social transformation. Do you agree? Discuss.

### **PROSE**

**(Answer one question only)**

1. The constant conflict between Nicholas and aunt in “**The Lumber Room**” occurs due to generation gap. Discuss.
2. Examine how Oscar Wilde’s “The Nightingale and the Rose” explores the superficiality of the Victorian era.
3. Evaluate how Kumar Sangakkara made the audience mesmerized at the patriotism of Sri Lankans in a subtle way.
4. Would you appreciate Sonali for her unwavering commitment as a mother or despise her for the irresponsible act towards her parents. Support your answer by providing evidence from “**Wave**”

### **FICTION**

**(Answer one question only)**

1. Mark Twain’s “**The Prince and the Pauper**” explores the struggles navigated when poverty and royalty are exchanged within the characters. Discuss,
2. Pain of parting can reverberate throughout the different phases of life. Justify this statement by referring to Tissa Abeysekara’s “**Bringing Tony Home**”.
3. Examine the facts that contributed Mali to become a spoiled boy in the novel “**The Vendor of Sweets.**”